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THE Country GUIDE

NOVEMBER, 1951

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Out of the loyalty and warmth of their hearts the farm population of Western Canada extend to Their Majesties King George and Queen Elizabeth, and to all the members of the royal family, most sincere felicitations upon His Majesty's convalescence, coupled with their hopes and prayers for his complete restoration to health and strength . . .

At this time of rejoicing and welcome which marks the visit of H.R.H. the Princess Elizabeth and her husband Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, to Canada, they remember with affectionate recollection the visit of the King and Queen, 12 years ago, in 1939, of which the above picture will recall an incident familiar to many . . .

May the visit of Their Royal Highnesses prove an equally felicitous and enduring memory to the thousands of farm families in Western Canada to whom the Crown is the respected, cherished—and at this time of perplexity and uncertainty—cheering and heartening symbol of the unity and strength of the Commonwealth of free and independent nations.



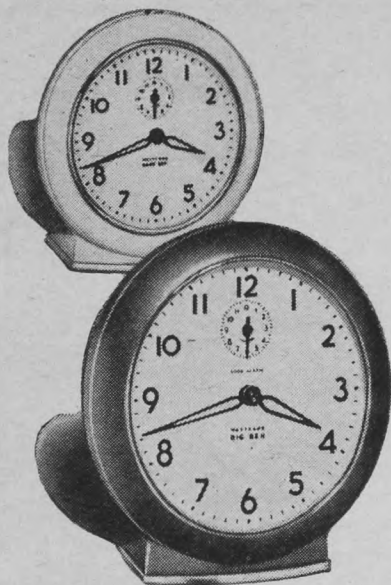
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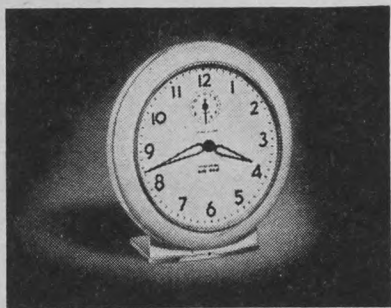
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is a family man

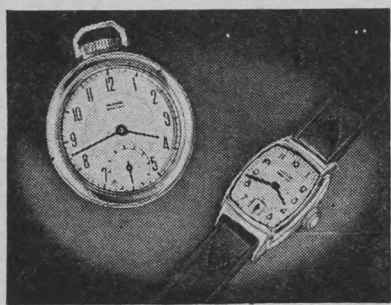


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[Photo by Robt. Wilson, Salt Prairie, Alta.]

THE Country GUIDE

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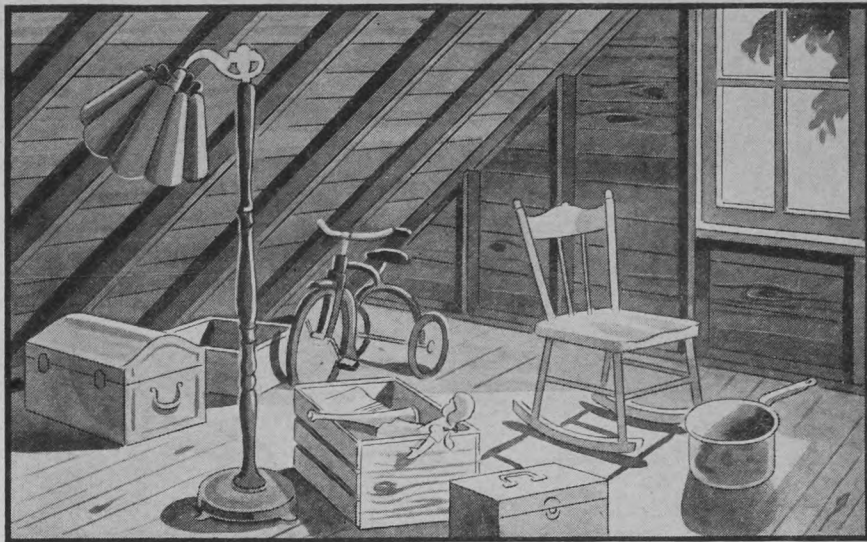
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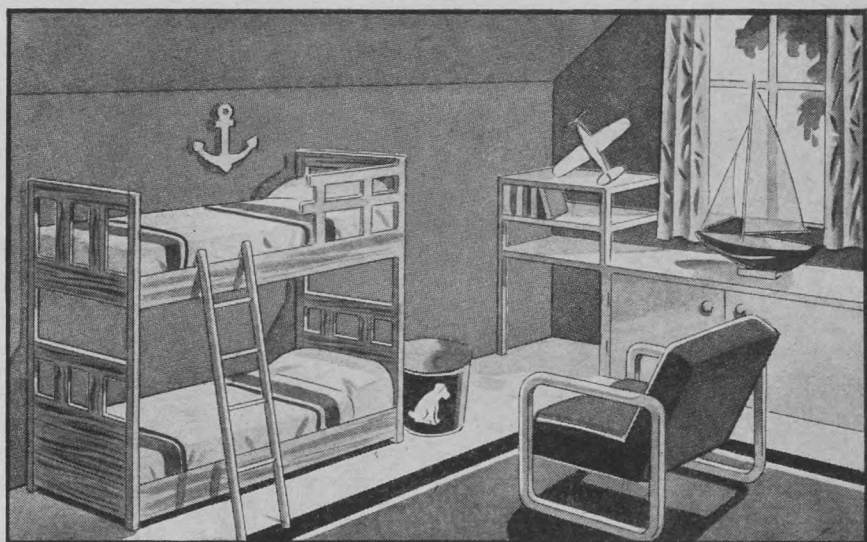
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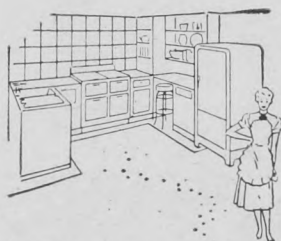
The next time you need tractor tires, don't depend on *looks*. It's performance that pays off . . . and doesn't it stand to reason that the tractor tire that gives most farmers the best performance in year-'round farming is the tire for *you* to buy?

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comes power to turn night into day . . . to cook your food . . . to wash your clothes. And just as important, electric power keeps the wheels of industry producing stoves, washing machines, refrigerators, cars and other things that make life comfortable and good.

There is always something to save for, and you will find us delighted to help you make saving easy. So drop in for a friendly visit today —and let us work out a Savings Plan together. Remember, the day always comes when you're glad you saved!



35-51

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Under the Peace Tower

IT will come as a surprise to many Canadians that our government is sending more than \$22,000 in war pensions each year behind the Iron Curtain. Certainly it must astonish most people to know that over \$14,000 goes from Canada into the Soviet Union each year for veterans of our wars.

Finally, it certainly will shock Canadians generally that there are actually four of our quondam Legionnaires receiving their pensions in Germany.

These are some of the strange things I have been able to exhume from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Meanwhile, here is our score with the Iron Curtain on pensions:

Country	No. of Pensioners	Annual Liability Paid
Bulgaria	1	\$ 900
Czechoslovakia	5	2,040
Hungary	2	413
Latvia	1	600
Poland	7	4,562
Romania	1	75
Russia	19	14,052
	36	\$22,642

How the Canadian veterans of this last war or the earlier one got behind the Iron Curtain, the Department of Veterans Affairs does not profess to know. Nor does it care much. But it does know that the cheques or money orders are somehow cashed.

It is not immediately clear how we pay off in Russia, but the Canadian government in London somehow manages to get a currency that is satisfactory to the Russians. No one knows what the veterans do with their pension cheques. They only know that somehow they are cashed.

There is a story, which cannot be vouched for, of one bold ex-Canadian Army man, living in Russia. He is reported to have turned up at the Canadian Embassy in Moscow, and said that because of the high cost of living, he wanted a bigger pension!

In previous times, no difficulty was presented in sending money to most European countries. For, while it was difficult for nationals to get out, at least mail and money flowed freely back and forth. Now neither seems to flow freely, and for the most part, not at all.

The veterans who get money in Germany are believed to be those who located there after World War I, and then just stayed there. Whether they got their pensions during World War II is unknown, but if they were received, it would be an amusing irony.

A few pensions go to the ex-Iron Curtain Country, Yugoslavia. In all, 15 pensioners annually collect \$11,850. These are believed to be the Canadians who succumbed to Tito's sales talks during the time he was playing St. Paul to the Master in the Kremlin. Those "stuck" in Yugoslavia, or else remaining voluntarily, thus are still getting their pension cheques.

Great Britain is still by far the greatest recipient of Canadian pension cheques. Between World War I and World War II, a total of 7,143 veterans have settled in the U.K. and they collect \$4,359,409.



But those pensions go to strange places. For instance, one Turk (or man living in Turkey) gets \$338 per annum. To remote Ethiopia goes \$375 for one vet. Four men in Iceland draw \$3,658 annually. One man in Portugal yearly picks up \$150. There are seven Maltese who take \$3,986 out of Canada every year.

BELGIUM is a big customer, with \$16,014 going there annually; France is even bigger with 36 pensioners and an annual outlay of \$23,126. The Scandinavians line up thus: Denmark, 12 receiving \$4,238; Norway, 18 receiving \$9,982; Sweden, 10 receiving \$7,408.

Listed under Africa are 36 veterans getting \$18,265.

Surprising is the fact that only nine remained behind in Holland in this or the last war, and thus only \$5,417 goes there.

A couple more — Greece, \$7,592; Pakistan, \$300; Palestine, \$300.

These pensions will go on for a long time yet. There are still a few widows in the United States getting money for their Civil War husbands; not so long ago the United States paid its last cheque to the child wife of some veteran of the War of 1812-15. The Department of Veterans Affairs is dwindling all the time, and its best days are behind it. But for a long time, for longer than anybody there now working will be on the job, pensions will be paid.

The way things are now, we may still be paying pensions for dependents in A.D. 2051.

Howe



"We go to school to learn the 3 G's!"

says MRS. SEVERIN TERHAAR

"My husband and I both go to school," said Mildred Terhaar.

"Sev attends adult classes to learn new methods of Growing and Grazing. And whenever socials are held, I attend, to learn what's new in local Gossip. Most wives love these school gatherings. After a steady diet of farm chores, we enjoy dressing up and swapping tidbits of news.

"And believe me, nothing helps me forget farm chores as fast as Jergens Lotion. It's such a wonderful smoother for my hands... it pretties them up in a jiffy!"



"Our winters are very cold and windy. With all our outdoor chores, my skin would be constantly raw if it weren't for Jergens Lotion. It's a blessing to all of us.



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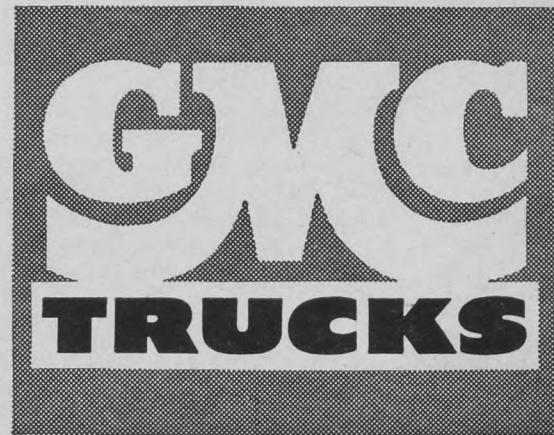
For example, truck men like the way a GMC is safeguarded against the damage of road grime and dust. Its specialized, four-way lubrication prolongs engine life by protecting every engine part from excessive wear. And a GMC offers extra protection to the load and driver as well.

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GMC

FOR ANY LOAD ON ANY ROAD

by M. C. CROSBIE

FARM LABOR... *A Perplexing Problem*

THE farm labor shortage which developed as a consequence of war has never been made good and is a considerable worry to agriculture. Farmers are not alone in this problem, however, because shortages are being experienced by all primary industries and by certain other industries as well. Skilled workers are in short supply in many industries. Some professions are short.

For almost ten years farmers have operated with a minimum of manpower. This can go only so far, and with the extra workload of 1951, the supply of farm workers has been less than the minimum needed. Forestry and agriculture, usually complementary to each other in the use of labor, have been competitors during 1951. Except in British Columbia, forestry has been short from 5,000 to 10,000 workers.

There is no way of estimating the actual shortage in agriculture. Even New Brunswick, ordinarily self-sufficient in farm workers, has had to bring in workers from Newfoundland, Magdalen Islands, and Cape Breton. Quebec, rich in young men of rural origin, absorbed over 500 Italian immigrants for farm work. The National Employment Service of the Unemployment Insurance Commission has made every endeavor to meet the situation. In so doing, it has co-operated closely with the departments of Labor and Immigration and with provincial departments of Agriculture.

Though world population has increased since 1900 at a greater rate than ever before, rural depopulation has been common to all industrialized countries and to all provinces of Canada. People have left the farms to go into urban industry, business and the professions. Between 1929 and 1949, in the United States of America, the percentage of total population which was rural, dropped from 25 to 19 per cent. In New Zealand, between 1901 and 1945, the decrease was from 54 to 37 per cent; in Sweden, from 1900 to 1949, from 78 to 54 per cent; and in Denmark, from 1901 to 1950, from 62 to 50 per cent. Canada's rural population, which was 80 per cent of the total in 1871, dropped to 62.5 per cent in 1901, to 50.5 per cent in 1921, and to 46 per cent in 1941. Between 1941 and 1946, the three prairie provinces lost 137,568 farm people.

WHEN farm population decreases, it does not necessarily mean that the movement of workers from agriculture to other occupations is entirely voluntary. There has been a vast improvement in farm operating efficiency and in the amount a single farm worker can produce. Higher yields, coupled with mechanization and the consequent increase in the size of farms, have made it possible for the farmer to increase his total output and yet employ fewer workers than before. The shock to agriculture comes when the loss of workers is at a greater rate than the increase of operating efficiency. Farmers who are unable to replace labor by mechanization and other means of increasing production per worker, suffer most from labor shortage.

It is evident that the large majority of Canadian farmers have been able to find substitutes for farm

labor over the last 50 years. From 1901 to 1946, production per Canadian farm more than doubled. Between 1901 and 1949, production per worker increased by 75 per cent. During the war, when manpower was short and yields were generally high, production per worker varied from 209.1 per cent in 1942, of the 1901 production per worker, to 182.7 per cent in 1945.

Farm manpower has gone, in the main, to industry. Young men and women of farm origin are found everywhere in industry, commerce, the civil service, the professions and other primary industries.

AN obvious question is, why do young men and women leave the farm? The question, however, is more easily asked than answered. No one answer will suffice. The easy one is to say they leave because they believe they will find life more pleasant, and can make more economic progress elsewhere. This may be true, but only in certain instances. We all know of sons who could have taken over the home farm clear of debt and fully equipped, but who chose life elsewhere. Some sons may leave because there are several in a family, but it is much more general than this. Readers have only to think of farmers in their own districts who are reaching advanced ages, but whose sons have left.

The high cost of purchasing and equipping a modern farm often prevents young people from becoming owners. But would it not be more attractive to these people to stay on the farm at wages, in a house to themselves, with no rent to pay, and plenty of good food and wholesome environment in which to bring up a family? Many who do not become farm owners take this opportunity, but others leave for a future in the cities and towns which is frequently much less certain.

The reader will see, then, that there is no simple answer. We can list a number of possible reasons why people leave the farm, but they might not be correct. Some which may be suggested are these: Father and sons do not get along together. Sons' interests are not in farming. Sons consider that they can earn more working for someone else. Father fails to share responsibility with sons, who resent being treated as hired workers. Son marries a town girl, who is not interested in farm life. Hours of work on farm are too long, when compared with other occupations. Farm wages or other income, actual or imagined, are not equal to alternative employment. Work under a farm boss is not attractive. Farm offers no regular holidays, or days off work. Unemployment insurance, workmen's compensation, or retirement pension are not available to farm workers. Farm living conditions are not as attractive as urban living. Farms are isolated, and people have less opportunity for social life after work. Higher educational facilities are not always available.

These are only some of the reasons that one hears in explanation of the exodus from farms, and of the fact that too few people are looking for farm employment. I list them, not necessarily as the right reasons, or in order of relative importance.

To understand the problem properly, we need the facts. Local facts are not enough. The best result is secured by trained investigators, working without bias. We may not like the real picture when we see it, but, like the patient whose doctor recommends a distasteful cure, it may be wise to accept the facts.

Some farm labor surveys have been made in Canada, but not all of the results have been published as yet. Farm organizations could well devote time to this study, and discussion of this problem. So, too, might our

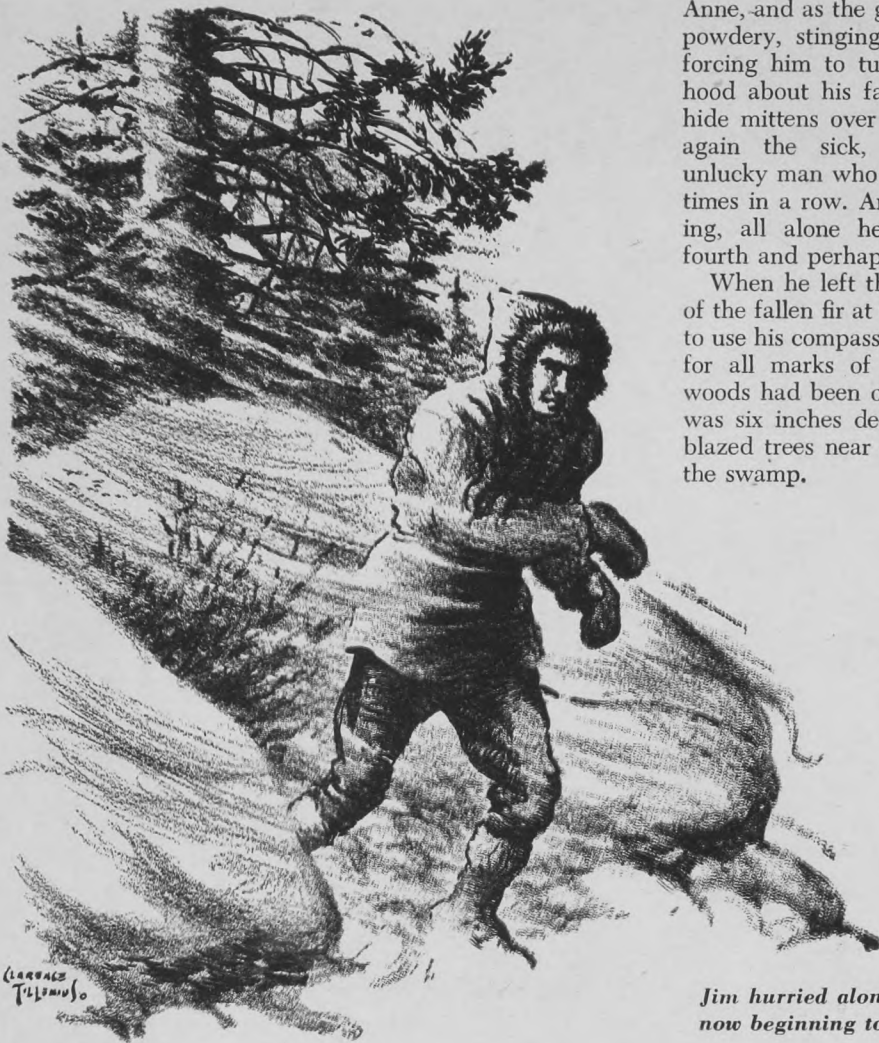
(Please turn to page 31)



With the maximum of mechanization the supply of farm labor is still an important factor in production.

Moreover, they are eagerly sought by employers. Life on the farm produces a ruggedness and stability of character, a high degree of resourcefulness, and initiative, adaptability, toleration and ambition. A farm-raised youth also acquires mechanical know-how quickly.

A request which came to my attention recently for general construction laborers for a mining company was more revealing than usual. This request stated that preference would be shown to farm-raised men under 30 years, over 150 pounds, with average or better schooling. Wages offered were \$1.29 an hour for an eight-hour day, six-day week, with overtime pay at time-and-one-half. Work in mine operation would be offered on the completion of construction work. Although preference for farm-raised people is not usually stated, this is only one example of a wide range of job opportunities which draw people from farms.



CLARENCE
TILLENIUS

Anne, and as the growing, piercing cold and powdery, stinging snow closed about him, forcing him to turn up his fur-lined parka hood about his face and don thick moosehide mittens over his jaeger gloves, he felt again the sick, hopeless mood of the unlucky man who had "just missed it" three times in a row. And now, with winter coming, all alone he was going to take his fourth and perhaps his last chance.

When he left the main trail, to the south of the fallen fir at the split rock pass, he had to use his compass to direct him to his camp, for all marks of his passage through the woods had been obliterated by the snow. It was six inches deep before he reached the blazed trees near the elephant-like dome in the swamp.

A grim and sinister force haunts the trail that Jim Lawton takes to record his lucky find

Jim hurried along the trail. The storm was now beginning to howl through the timber.

JIM did not linger at the roadhouse, nor around the new camp, which held no inviting prospects other than the showing of ore he had seen. The gold-hungry rushers had made a typical mess of the primeval forest, chopping down trees hastily, leaving tall, ugly stumps, carving lanes through the dense forest to provide passage to their claims. One outfit had managed to sink a shallow shaft into the hardpan clay and rock, shoring it up with logs set on end and braced inside. Ore buckets and shovels and rope and other accessories of mining were scattered about and the rain had made a mudhole of the cleared area.

But it was not raining now. There had come a sudden shift in the wind, from east to north, and tiny snowflakes were falling, swirling in a rapidly rising gale as the temperature dropped swiftly to far below freezing. With a brief inspection of the dump of ore from the log-framed shaft, which showed him evidences of a fair percentage of gold, Jim turned his back to the wind and struck off down the trail, glad to be travelling south and west instead of facing the icy breath of the north. Winter was coming, very early. Once the wind shifted this way there would be no let-up, no stoppage of the falling snow, no thaw. By the first of November, the wilderness would be deeply buried and the temperature would range down to thirty and forty below zero. A month later it would drop to sixty and even to seventy below. Jim knew he had to ride his hunch hard and fast or beat a retreat to Catamount and hire out as a mucker, or hoof it to the railroad and resume his former temporary occupation with the construction gangs.

If he made a strike, however, he would build a tight cabin and stick it out until he had dug deep enough in his discovered vein to be sure it was worth further exploration. He would have to pack out sufficient samples to have a thorough assay made, then interest capital to develop a mine. Machinery was required in this hardrock country to dig gold in sufficient quantities to make it pay. But pay it would, and plenty, if a vein held out.

Jim felt that his visit to Uncle Jack's had been of little value, save to get the letter on its way to

safe, but a tin pan had been bent as the beast licked and pawed at its leftover grease.

From scratches that showed on the tree trunk, deep ones, Jim guessed his visitor had been a tree-climbing animal, probably a lynx or catamount. Both were native to the country. He got his automatic out of his packsack, first of all, saw to it that it was in condition for use, and kept it in its holster at his belt, thereafter. He built a good fire on his flat rock and went quickly to work to restore his shelter against the storm. It was dark before he could get to the preparation of a meal, but he was again snug in his lean-to, and the snow helped bank it and seal cracks and crevices. His bed-roll was a combination mattress and sleeping-bag, sheepskin lined, and for the first time he crawled inside it, to sleep lightly, rousing often to replenish the fire and to listen for sound of some stealthy beast returning. Only the wind and the muted voice of the freezing stream were to be heard, and the hissing of the pellets of snow, now becoming thicker, the flakes like tiny balls of ice.

HE awoke in the morning to a world that had turned almost completely white and his breath sent spurts of white steam into the air. The big pool was frozen over and he had to chop a hole, after shovelling off a foot of snow, to get water for his boil-up. He made breakfast with his gloves on. A few feet away from his fire his fingers would have gone numb, bared. But the sun broke through and within an hour the snow slackened to a mere dusting of fine flakes.

Jim Lawton went to work on his hunch. It was an elephantine hunch. The ice on the swamp was just strong enough to bear his weight and his first job, a toilsome one, was to shovel the snow off a strip, a yard wide, to make sure he would have

thicker ice. He fashioned a rude scraper out of split spruces to do this job. Around the dome of rock he laid a platform of poles and erected a low staging to stand on, dry-shod, while he attacked the quartz with a drilling chisel.

It was slow, hard work, swinging the sledge with one hand while he held and turned the drill with the other, his hands clumsy in their double covering of gloves and mittens. He had to take time out to go fishing, cutting holes in the ice on the pool and setting up rude tip-ups, the hooks baited with scraps of bacon rind. He took as many pike as would now come to the bait, for they froze solid in a few minutes out of the water and could be laid up for weeks, unspoiled. Digging down through the snow he found some roots that Billy, his Indian, had shown him were excellent to flavor meat or stew with and would ward off scurvy.

A week passed and Jim had drilled two rows of holes on the rounded face of the elephant rock. This looked most likely to contain some gold particles, near the surface. He had not yet set stakes, for he was confident that no prospector would venture out into this remote area, for some time, if at all. Now and then he circled around in the woods, looking for animal tracks, but he found none. Snow fell now and then, a little every day, some days many inches, until the trees were changed from up-turned pagodas to drooping white ghosts and every stump and stub became a white pedestal, extended upward by the successive layers of snow. No more wind, now, just still, crackling cold that caused trees to explode at night with the sound of a rifle-shot.

Jim prepared to blow his first blast. He had to thaw out his dynamite at the fire and wrap it thickly in his blankets to carry to the rock, so it would not freeze on the way.

In his drilling he had collected as much of the powdered rock as possible and had found some traces of gold in it; not much, but he didn't expect much. His was no diamond drill, such as the big companies used to bore down a thousand, maybe fifteen hundred feet and bring up a core of ore, an inch or two in diameter. Sometimes it would contain slices and dabs of pure gold.

CATAMOUNT GOLD

A SERIAL—PART TWO (CONCLUSION)

by CLAY PERRY

It was a white elephant now, humped up, stark and lonely and uninviting, in the swamp, where water had begun to freeze. Jim made sure of this, for if it froze thick enough before too much snow blanketed it, he would be able to get to the rock, dry-shod and peck away at it. Otherwise, he would have to build a corduroy trail to it and work in a mixture of snow, water and mud, at risk of freezing his feet. The cold never came without snow, and the snow came so thick and fast when it started that seldom did the ground or the mucky muskegs freeze up and give solid footing. Men had to keep to main or well-known trails. A step off in some areas meant a plunge into a sink-hole covered with snow, where a man might be mired to the waist and freeze to death or be completely swallowed up. Jim knew these dangers and he had picked high ground for his private trails, wherever he went. Nevertheless, he travelled carefully if swiftly, realizing he must hurry to beat the storm that was now beginning to howl through the timber that gave him fair shelter.

HE reached his camp at five o'clock, to find his lean-to almost a wreck and the heavy packsack he had hung on a high limb ripped open at one corner—but fortunately none of its contents missing. He made out that some animal had visited here in his absence, but had gone before the snow came, for there were no tracks. A powerful and hungry animal it must have been, which had climbed all over his lean-to, pulled the roof apart, and then had evidently attempted to leap and pull down the packsack with its food. His bed-roll and blankets were in disarray but not damaged save by mud smeared over the bundle he had made of them, and hung from the wall. His tools and utensils were all

Illustrated by Clarence Tillenius

He had his sticks of the blasting material all capped and fused, half a dozen half-sticks, which was one-third of his supply, and he pushed them into their respective holes, gingerly but swiftly. He laid logs crisscross atop them, the main fuse pulled up through. The logs would help direct the force of the blast downward, prevent a lot of rock being blown up and scattered about. Much of the broken ore, he hoped, would slide down onto the staging and the cleared ice, some would stay in the hole, shattered, to be scooped out. He had tough sacks ready for it.

He touched off the fuse with a bundle of matches tied together and ran and got behind a large tree, double-trunked, with a slit between the trunks through which he could peer without danger.

The blast blew with a dead, non-echoing sound, due to the muffling of the plant by logs and the absorbing solidity of the elephant rock, and for some moments Jim wondered if some of the dynamite had failed to explode and he waited, cautiously, but finally made sure no delayed explosion would occur.

He went to the rock, sliding on the smooth, clear ice, and began to pick up fragments. They were disappointing, because they were blackened and muddied and he dropped them at the base of the dome. He got up on his staging and took his shovel and thrust it into the hole which was about two feet square. When he lifted the shovel and held it close to his eyes he went somewhat crazy.

He saw shapeless pieces bigger than his hand which were seeming about half-yellow, half-pink. The yellow was pure, solid gold. He could hardly restrain himself from pulling off his mittens and gloves to feel it, but the temperature was well down in the thirty below numbers. Yet he was sweating, and knew he had better get to his fire. He sacked all the loose rock he could scrape up, two sacks, each weighing forty pounds or so, and shouldered them and ran, stumbling and gasping, to his lean-to.

Coals still glowed on his stone fireplace and he piled dry wood on them and flames leaped up and he spread his ore on a canvas and knelt and inspected it, piece by piece. He used his microscope, but did not really need it.

"Anne!" he shouted, "Anne! We've struck it! We've struck it!"

He forgot to eat. He began to cut stakes. Every few minutes he came back to the glittering pink gold-heap and turned the fragments over and over and stared at them. They shone back at his blazing eyes and seemed to Jim to send forth waves of warmth, as if on fire.

HE had memorized and practiced the mining laws and he cut and trimmed a discovery post, just squaring a spruce post and writing on it his name and the number of his licence, the date. Then he made four other posts, numbering them from "one" to "four" and on the first one wrote the same things that were on the discovery post, and on each of the others his name. He had a rolled measuring tape and when he had his posts prepared he went back to his golden elephant and paced off from it a distance of about 30 yards, to get off the iced territory. Here he hammered his discovery post into the ground, soft beneath the snow save for a slight frozen crust.

From here he packed off a distance of 20 surveyor's chains, which was 1,320 feet, to the northeast, where he planted post number one. Then he paced off another 20 chains at right angles, due south by his compass, planting post number two, then 20 chains west to plant number three and north again to plant number four.

He had now staked a square containing 40 acres. His discovery was protected. He planned to stake two more 40's, as his licence allowed, in his own name, and three in Anne's name, for he had taken out a licence for her. This would give them

a territory of six 40's of 40 acres each, surrounding the blasted rock. Protected his first 40 was, but not certified, because it was not yet recorded. Before recording he must perform other duties—blaze lines along the sides of the square and from the discovery post to the northeast corner. This was a matter of slashing off areas of bark from trees that stood in the lines or cutting the brush or erecting pickets or stone monuments at intervals of every 132 feet.

In inhabited territory Jim would have performed these duties at once, but he was some miles from any other claim and from any prospectors. The work could wait.

He wanted to get out to the new camp to find an expert miner who would tell him how much this ore was worth in round figures. He had no nearly accurate idea.

He had been alone so much that he talked aloud when he was excited or immersed in deep thought and he was talking continually, now.

"I'll pack up and hit the trail right away," he said. "I'll find out.

I'll probably get another letter from Anne. I'll write her one. I can tell her things now that will make rice and old shoes look like roses and lace. I'll tell her to get ready to take the train for Toronto. I can blast out enough gold here, single-handed, to pay for a gorgeous honeymoon. A golden honeymoon. Guess I'll name this discovery the Honeymoon Mine! Or Queen Anne Mine. My queen, Anne. God bless her!"

He was so happy, so excited, that he was almost hysterical and found himself shouting. He calmed himself and realized he was ravenously hungry.

Getting a meal he discovered that he had another reason for going out. His provisions were almost gone. What he had thought was another square of lean bacon proved to be a paper-wrapped box of dynamite fuses, tucked in his pack for safety as spares. He couldn't eat them.

He prepared, hurriedly but carefully, for his journey, and he would have to hurry to reach the camp before dark, or at least be well along on the main trail ere the sun set. It would get dark suddenly these days. He donned his snowshoes, sturdy, round bear's-paw webs that would stand

He had no warning. As he passed under the fallen spruce, the catamount jumped him, its mailed paws striking at his head and shoulders.



rough usage and hold him up on the snow, now over four feet deep. He would carry nothing but his packsack full of ore, enough weight for such a trip, dead weight.

THIS was to be the big night for Marean and his preparations required him to be out of Uncle Jack's, and supposedly on his way to Catamount. Marean was no slouch of a woodsman. He had been a trapper and hunter in the mountains of the western United States, becoming a miner of sorts at Butte, whence he had departed, in a hurry, and one bad night smuggled himself across the Canadian border.

The scar on his cheek was fresh when he fled from the Butte gold camp. The knife that had slashed him had been intended for his throat, and a rope would have looped around his neck had he not managed to escape the angry miners who took the law into their own hands when it came to judging and punishing claim jumpers. He had come as far east as possible, and yet get into gold fields, and he had adapted his technique of acquiring gold, in the minted or the raw form, to the laws of Canada.

Marean had not actually jumped any claims in Canada but then, he had never yet had a good opportunity. This night, the last day of the month, he expected to bring him a chance to take up a rich claim or two without actually violating the law.

He was out on the main trail, a short distance from Uncle Jack's roadhouse when he saw a man coming, bent over and almost staggering under the weight of a heavy packsack. His broad snowshoes crunched into the frozen snow, squeaking in the still air. It was twilight but Marean recognized the traveller. It was Jim Lawton, the luckless, who had rudely rebuffed him twice when he had offered himself as a partner.

Marean ducked off the trail and concealed himself in a clump of low-boughed evergreens and held still, until Jim had passed. Marean knew, as surely as if he had felt it and seen it, what the contents of that sagging canvas sack was. It could only be gold ore. Samples, (Please turn to page 38)

Root picking is the most disliked job on park belt farms. This picture was taken to show President Bill, and Secretary Earl working alongside two ordinary members.

Four established
farms consolidate
to form

Laurel Farm

—a co-operative

THIS is the story of three Saskatchewan farm neighbors, each faced with a different problem, who found a common solution, a key which unlocked three doors.

The troubles that beset these men are ones that you will find in every prairie community. They are the commonest ones you will find in any survey of prairie agriculture. In brief here they are. John Dexter had a fine big farm, but a vexatious and deteriorating labor problem. W. L. Chapman had a farm big enough for his own needs, but not big enough to divide among his four grown-up sons. Irving Reid acquired his farm after expansion had become more difficult. Changing methods and soaring costs found him facing an investment for equipment bigger than he could conveniently swing.

The end of the story is that they pooled their resources and formed a co-operative farm. Now, five years later, everyone concerned is satisfied that he took the best possible step to meet his personal problem.

The reader needs a little better introduction to two of these farm families to appreciate their separate problems and to follow the course of events that led to the establishment of a full-scale co-operative farm as a solution.

Take the case of John Dexter. The end of the war found him in possession of his father's 1,120-acre farm, furnished with modern buildings and well equipped with machinery. In the days before gasoline traction complicated life, the spacious farm house used to accommodate four or five hired men. Everyone knows what war did to the supply of farm labor. For the first few years John and his father tried to do all the work, sometimes with the help of one man, sometimes alone. No doubt overwork hastened retirement for the father. The pressure of those early war years drove John to the conclusion that he would have to sell some of his land if something did not turn up to remedy the farm labor situation.

On the adjoining farm lived the Chapmans. Father Chapman was an Ontario man who moved



out to Kipling, Saskatchewan, in his youth, and in time owned and operated a store at Lashburn. Retailing became too confining for his tastes, so during the first war he traded the store for a farm 12 miles from Saskatoon. In the next 18 years it yielded just three good crops. By 1934 the Chapmans were playing out the last of their string. The father went to look over the highly touted land of the Melfort district.

It amazed him, but he was still a little in doubt about pulling up stakes and moving north. The boys resolved his doubts for him, and the Chapmans took the big gamble of trading their large plains farm for a small one in the bush.

Mr. Chapman obtained a half section near Meskanaw with 30 acres on it summerfallowed the year before. In his first year's occupancy that 30 acres yielded 1,000 bushels of wheat, a heavier stand than he had ever seen on the much larger farm on the plains. The destiny of the Chapman family was fixed. In the next six years they expanded the farm to three quarter sections, raised a fine brood of five sons and two daughters, and proceeded to make up for the sojourn in the desert.

Jack, the oldest, was the first to branch out on a quarter section of his own. Then came the war, and Harold, No. 2, and an agricultural college graduate, went off to join the tank corps. Earl, No. 3, went on with his university course and worked for that institution during the summer months.

BY the spring of 1943 the authorities served Mr. Chapman notice that he would be able to keep only one of the younger boys home to help with the farm work. So father Chapman emerged with a plan which was a forerunner of the amalgamation that gave birth to Laurel Farm, the present full-scale co-operative. He made a deal with the labor-starved Dexter by which the Chapman labor force, father and three sons, would be matched against Dexter's complete line of machinery; the gas and oil bill to be equally divided; and the proceeds equally shared.

It was a fair arrangement and it worked eminently well for the two years it was in force. It had one handicap. Two of the younger men had acquired wives, and were in the process of expanding their families still further. Working in the fields, some of them far from their own dwelling, their young wives were often left alone all day. The Chapmans and the Dexters—for by this time Beryl Chapman had become Mrs. John Dexter—were learning that farm organization has a social as well as an economic side, a fact which

A study of an arrangement whereby a group of Saskatchewan farmers killed off three of their most pressing problems at one stroke

by P. M. ABEL

they put to good use later.

In the years when his family was in the growing stage, father Chapman had always thought that it would be sufficient to give all his sons a good education and

turn them adrift. But to his surprise, at the end of the war all the boys save Harold were determined to go on farms of their own. That raised sharply the problem of staking the three younger ones out of his limited resources. Something better than the temporary arrangement of trading labor for the use of equipment was required.

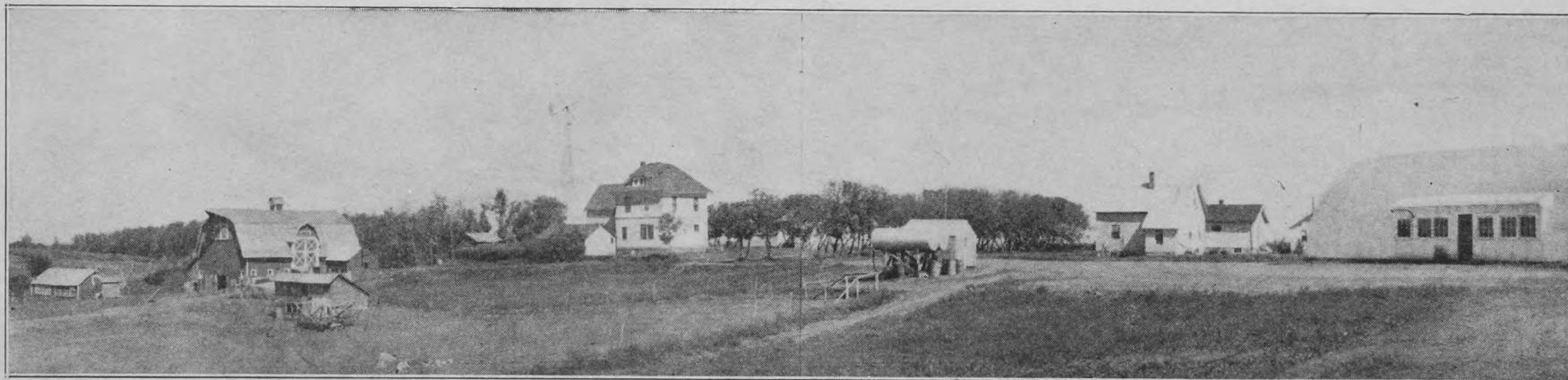
Harold, now out of khaki, became organizer for the provincial department of co-operation at Regina, a fortunate coincidence, because it enabled him to show his relatives the way out of the woods—to provide a legal basis for the plan that was forming in their minds.

IN January, 1946, Laurel Farm, the new co-operative, became an established fact. Each of the partners, John Dexter and W. L. and Jack Chapman, surrendered their land, buildings, and equipment, to the new co-operative, all at agreed valuations. The three younger Chapman boys, Earl, Charlie and Bill, having neither land, buildings, nor equipment, contributed each a \$1,000 cheque presented to them by their father for the occasion, which was to serve as working capital at the outset of the new venture. And the 1,760-acre farm acquired a labor force of six men. Irving Reid joined in 1947.

Obviously this division of assets, on which interest would have to be paid, was quite unequal. The articles of association therefore provided for a continuous withdrawal of cash on the part of the majority owners, and a compensating increase in the investment of the minority owners, levelling off at an investment of approximately \$20,000 each by all of the seven owners. It can be recorded that in five years' time the juniors have all more than quadrupled their original holding, and that one of them is now a capitalist of \$8,000 standing.

The wage bill is the first charge on Laurel Farm income. Each of the partners except Chapman, senior, who has now retired, draws \$70 a month as basic pay, it being calculated at the time this arrangement was made that this was the smallest monthly cash expenditure on which a farm family could live. Any balance of income over the wage bill, the interest charge, and amounts set aside for current operation expense, is shared on the basis of number of work days contributed during the crop year.

From the beginning the labor force was more than adequate for ordinary farm operations. The co-op therefore rented five adjoining quarters, raising their total to four and one-half sections of land. In park country, such (Please turn to page 60)



A panorama of Laurel Farm. Five dwellings can be seen; one hidden in the trees behind the fuel tanks; three between trees and machine shop.



GIL'S CANYON

Upper left: Gil's collaborator, the woodland engineer. Upper right: Gil's Canyon from the wheat fields. Lower left: The first beaver lodge built just above the 100-foot dam. Lower center: May morning. This young lady isn't waiting for the official opening. Lower right: The Gopher Hole, Gil's residence in the Canyon.

NESTLED in the heart of the wheat fields, in sharp contrast to the ripening wheat and the resting fields of brown summerfallow, is an oasis of green poplar and willow, covering an age-old ravine. Now it protects a newly formed lake, as if to hide from unfriendly eyes, a fast growing sanctuary for all species of God's creatures. It is also fast becoming a popular meeting place for all farmers of the surrounding district and their friends.

A Saskatchewan farmer, son of one of our early pioneers, still harboring his forbears' sense of community spirit and co-operation has given over part of his land and all of his time to forming a sanctuary, not just for Mother Nature's children but for the community's people and their children as well. Gilbert Bloomquist remembers the pioneer days of his youth when community get-togethers were a real part of every settler's life. Through the years amid the hustle and bustle of modern living he has seen the old picnic grounds long since planted to grain or overgrown with willow and bramble. He has seen the "old swimmin' hole" fill with weeds. He has seen the sons and daughters of the instigators of those pioneer outdoor pleasure parties rush along with the times appearing too busy with their present-day whirl to take time out for a good old-fashioned community gathering.

by JEAN H. KIRKBY

Gil has a remedy for all this. His canyon, Gil's Canyon, is fast becoming a place where all may come for picnics, renew acquaintances with their neighbors—where they may return in some degree to the happy, carefree and wholesome gatherings so much enjoyed by the early settlers.

GILBERT BLOOMQUIST, bachelor farmer of the Kinley district, Saskatchewan, arrived in Saskatoon as a boy of nine with his parents from North Dakota. That was in 1903 when Saskatchewan was still North West Territories with thousands of acres of virgin land eagerly awaiting the homesteader. With the Bloomquists came 17 other families and like many other of those hardy pioneer folk they arrived with all their possessions, including horses, stock and implements. Gilbert's father filed a homestead for each of the 17 in and around the Kinley district.

Gilbert received his early schooling in this district and tells of walking once weekly 18 miles after school for the mail, summer and winter. It never occurred to him in those days that it was a long walk for a youngster. He gradually acquired land of his own and as a young man settled down

to serious farming—then in later years rented his land and set out to see the rest of this vast continent. From the thirties till after the war Gilbert moved across Canada and parts of the United States, from Vancouver to Toronto and Chicago, finally coming back a few years ago to his first love—the land. Today he rents his land again and devotes all of his time to establishing his sanctuary, his "playground" for the people of the district.

Gilbert's travels brought one point forcibly home to him; that in this area of plains and wheat lands there is no "Regina Beach," no "Waskesiu," there is no nearby haven where the farmer and his family could retire for a day's or even a few hours' respite from the exacting tasks of farm life. With this realization he saw the possibilities his own farm offered. Running through the center of his 600 acres is a deep ravine, whose sides are heavily wooded with poplar and willow, and along whose bed there runs a creek fed by a crystal clear spring.

Gilbert saw the possibilities of turning the ravine into a community park. By building a dam across the ravine he could create a small lake suitable for swimming or boating. By setting aside a portion of the flat wheat field above it he could make a fine sports field. The green woods along the ravine would continue to (Please turn to page 34)

The story of what one man did to re-create the community spirit of his pioneer days—a fine piece of unselfish effort



One afternoon I saw the most wonderful instrument in Rae's store.

THE LANTERN THAT WAS magic

SUDDENLY, one day when the world is a little crazy with springtime, and the puddles shine, and the melting snow winks endlessly, there comes into the heart of a boy the strong desire to kiss someone who is neither an aunt, a cousin, nor a mother.

This urge, arriving, let us say, at the spring of the twelfth year, when the first chartreuse buds defy the evening chill, has sometimes no object except in a dream.

Some other time the spring-swept youth has in mind a certain lovely girl.

She is usually, as she was in my case, a girl with whom the youth has played in tomboy fashion for several years, with mingled joy and despair. Now she becomes, abruptly, something besides a companion and foil. She becomes a desirable creature, the color of whose eyes and the softness of whose skin are immediately strangely important.

The girl, then, whom I wanted to kiss that remembered spring, was Sally. I can offer no plausible explanation. Sally, on the other hand, did not want to kiss me. For this I have no explanation, either, unless it was the snide persuasion of my rival, Egbert, an alien from the States, corrupting the very air of my beloved Canada with his weird nasal sounds.

"Just anybody can't kiss me," Sally said. "A hero, an explorer or someone special like . . . maybe . . ."

Do the years weigh on you? Any creakings in the joints? Any falling hair?

"No, Papa, I do not mind birthdays. I wish to be soon a man. I will be so happy when I am a man."

"And all the men would be happy to be boys. It is better to be a boy. It is to be filled with wonder and magic."

The word excited me.

"That is what men think," I countered, "but the life of a boy does not have enough magic." I paused dramatically. "That is why," I continued, "I wish a magic lantern."

Papa put down his newspaper. "You wish perhaps to enter the theatrical business?"

"In a small way only," I pleaded. "For a few friends maybe."

"Egbert, I suppose, is a hero? Egbert of the horse's face, the horse's laugh . . . and the words that rumble out through his large nose?"

"Egbert is from New York. There they are all heroes."

You may be certain I gave the matter considerable thought, aiming for some sort of distinction that would not cause me to risk any broken bones.

I was not, I admit, the bravest boy in the world, so I strolled after school, when the sun was golden, and warmed my thoughts. I believed if I walked enough places I would someday be struck with an idea how to win my lady fair and not jeopardize my neck.

And so I was. As I passed the Rae Department Store one afternoon I saw a most marvellous instrument in the window. It was a small black metal box with an opening at the back and a large lens in the front. At the back one inserted a colored postcard which thereupon became magnified greatly upon the wall. At the moment, the card showed a lovely street in Paris. Down this fine boulevard there strolled many beautiful women and handsome men. Believe me, it was almost real . . . the trees, the horses, the buildings.

Why not ask Papa to buy me this object, which the sign called a magic lantern, for my birthday, which would be soon? How much better than some new long black lisle stockings, or some blouses with foolish strings, or more suits with short pants!

With the magic lantern mine I could give a party and invite Sally. After the great show I would escort her home and she would, of course, permit me to kiss her goodnight because of the wonders I had shown her.

I took one last look at the colorful window, and then I went home as fast as possible, arriving panting.

AFTER a long glass of cold water and a moment's rest on the divan, I sought Papa. He was in his room, sipping wine and reading *La Presse*.

"Papa," I began, brushing back the wet locks from my sweating brow, "I wish to make a request."

"We had frogs' legs last week," Papa said, without looking away from the paper.

"No. It is not frogs' legs. Papa, soon is my birthday."

"Ah, so it is. You are getting old, Bibi."



"What is the cost of such an instrument?"

"Twelve dollars," I replied, casually.

Papa blinked his eyes. "To save \$12 from 25 cents a week will take some time."

I shook my head. "No, Papa. It is for my birthday I wish it. A present."

Papa looked vaguely out the window for a moment. Then he said solemnly: "Your Maman was thinking of something more . . . uh . . . useful. Some new shoes, perhaps. Or a box in which to put books and games."

"She will not change her mind, maybe?" I asked anxiously.

Papa smiled. "Perhaps if we can explain to her the beauty and value of this instrument. Remember, however, she is a Scot and you must be very winning."

I laughed and ran to the kitchen, where I found Maman ironing a red-checked tablecloth.

"Go and wash your hands and face," she said automatically.

"I did. Maman . . . in this world there are many things of value . . . money, food, clothes, *n'est-ce pas?*"

Maman looked at me in some surprise. "What do you mean?"

"But is it enough to have in the world only food, clothes and money? Do we not need, also, something pretty?"

"What do you want me to buy you now?" Maman said distinctly and slowly.

"Nothing, my dear Maman. Nothing, *c'est-à-dire*, for me alone. It is for you too. For all of us. Something very, very beautiful."

Maman turned up the iron on a stand, removed the tablecloth from the board, folded it carefully and put it on a chair.

"What is it you want?" she said then.

"A magic lantern. In Rae's I saw one. It shows on the screen anything bright and colored . . . postcards . . . pictures . . . all made into a much larger size. If we wish to be in Paris, strolling the boulevard, we need only a postcard of the Champs Elysées. If we desire to walk through the streets of New York, we need only a postcard of Times Square. If we wish an ocean voyage, we need—"

"What is the price of this machine?"

"Twelve dollars," I said. "But I can give parties and charge ten cents and—"

"Twelve dollars is too much."

"But, Maman, to see the world . . . to look at beautiful women and handsome men . . . to see giant flowers and greatly enlarged birds . . ."

MAMAN sighed. She looked over at the door, and there stood Papa, smiling.

"Twelve dollars is not so much to pay for most of the beauty in the world," Papa suggested.

"He needs a new suit," Maman countered. "Of course I could cut down that blue one of yours."

Papa gulped, but he did not protest.

"The blue one is a fine one, but one must admit it has seen happier days. (Please turn to page 55)

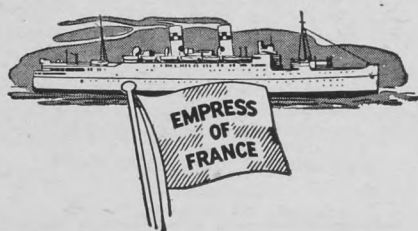
by ROBERT FONTAINE

An appealing love story by the writer of "A Happy Time," sketches of Ottawa boyhood, and popular radio feature "My Uncle Louis," which have won wide acclaim

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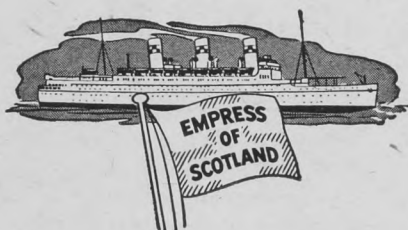
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Warning Signals

A by-election upset in B.C. stuns the faithful. Coast dairy industry in sore straits

by CHAS. L. SHAW

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S coalition government is still rubbing its shins as a result of the painful kick it received in the Esquimalt by-election. This punishment may be a warning of further trouble politically because there is little doubt that the popularity of the administration has sunk very low.

This is a strange thing and enough to make the Premier and his cabinet ministers shake their heads in wonderment and exasperation, because a majority opinion would probably agree that they have given the province good management and a progressive policy. Man for man, the cabinet is probably as capable as any British Columbia has ever had.

The sunken fortunes of the government are even harder to explain when it is realized that the province has never before realized such a long and unbroken period of prosperity. Every industry is humming and there is virtually no unemployment. Labor is being paid higher wages than ever, and some of the bigger companies are making such high profits that critics are writing to the papers in protest. Yet the government is the recipient of brickbats.

Probably the failure of the present administration has been its lamentable tendency to do the right thing wrongly. There has been the best of intention and the worst of performance. We won't do more than mention hospital insurance because that is a subject previously treated at length in this column, but the ineptitude with which that program was introduced is the bright, conspicuous example of how this all-star team has consistently fumbled the ball.

Unpopularity over hospital insurance and other issues were given as the main cause of the coalition's defeat at Esquimalt when the coalition candidate ran third. It was significant that the winner was a C.C.F. member whose previous claim to fame was as a pugilist and that the runner-up was an independent Conservative who rebelled against the coalition but who otherwise was politically unknown. The third man—the coalitionist—was the mayor of Victoria who has held the political spotlight, usually favorably, for years. The vote cast was obviously one of protest against the government and unfortunately for the forces of the right it was just one more demonstration that where the two old-line parties are divided the Socialist usually cops the prize. This is a point on which to reflect in view of the announcement by the Conservatives that in the next provincial election they will go it alone, which means of course that the Liberals will have to do likewise since coalition will be dead.

Just when the next election may be held is a guess. There have been demands, as a result of the Esquimalt upset, for an immediate electoral test, but Premier Johnson will probably favor delay until the spring, by which time he hopes that the hospital insurance pill will not taste quite so bitter.

There was to be a short, snappy session of the legislature on October



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Circulation of these publications is well-over 4,000,000, readership from two to three times that figure.

In addition, for the entertainment and information of the consumers of your products, two weekly 15-minute network programs opened on October 4th. These are:

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"Perette et le Trio des Petits" each Thursday from 10:45 to 11:00 a.m. E.S.T. over an enlarged CBC French network of 7 stations.

Be sure to tune-in on the Voice of the Dairy Farmers.

★ ★ ★

Your advertising in trade publications is directed to the retailers and distributors of your products and to users of Dairy Foods in bulk. It tells them how they can increase sales by tie-in with your advertising, how they can make wider and more economical use of Dairy Foods. To help in this selling job, your Dairy Foods Service Bureau originates timely, colourful display material for use from coast to coast.

★ ★ ★

Your Dairy Foods Service Bureau supports its advertising with consumer service that is winning thousands of friends. MARIE FRASER, your food editor, already has distributed 90,000 Dairy Foods recipe folders in answer to requests and has answered hundreds of inquiries from consumers. The high quality of her regular editorial service on Dairy Foods to the food editors and radio commentators has established her articles and recipes as regular features in many publications.

Thus, millions of people from coast to coast are reading and hearing your Sales Messages . . . learning more about dairy foods . . . new ways to use them . . . discovering the economy of Dairy Foods . . . gaining a new understanding of the part played by Dairy Farmers in feeding the Nation.

DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA

409 HURON STREET, TORONTO



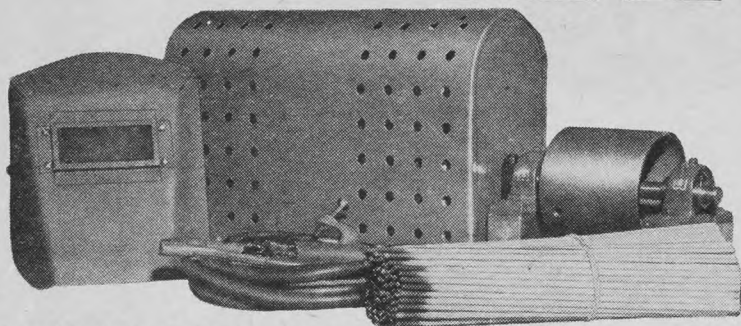
MILK...CREAM...BUTTER
ICE CREAM, CHEESE, MILK
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**HERE YOU ARE MR. FARMER,
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It's Universal Distributors'

NEW MODEL WELDERS

in your price range!



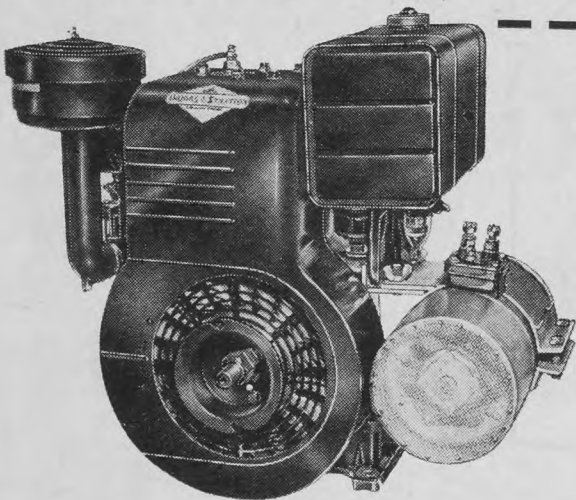
**The
Model
250
and
180
Welders**

The Model 250 Welder (above) is in the 20 to 250 amp. range. Priced at only **\$135.00**

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For those who like to, or must, do their own welding, here's new powerful portable welders for every man's choice. Perfectly engineered, simple-to-operate for work on all metals anywhere.

Both the 250 and 180 models (left) feature flat belt drive with pulley to run off any tractor. Have exceptional low R.P.M. Fully complete with all welding accessories.



THE NEW 150 MODEL WELDER

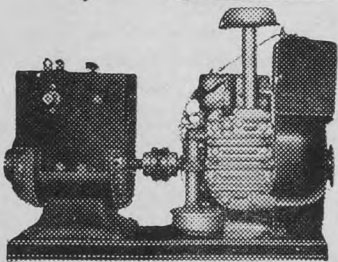
It's the welder complete with power! Has Model 23 Briggs and Stratton 8.2 H.P. Gasoline Engine which can be removed in 60 seconds for work on other farm requirements. Continuous duty. It's in the 20 to 150 amp. range. Fully complete with all accessories ready to weld. Priced at **\$289.00**

For those who have a model 23 Briggs and Stratton 8.2 H.P. engine, above welder can be supplied all complete with accessories (less engine) ready to mount. (Requires less than 3 minutes, no tools necessary). Priced at only **\$95.00**

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**BRAND
NEW
LIGHT
PLANTS**

**BRAND
NEW
UNIVERSAL
GRAIN
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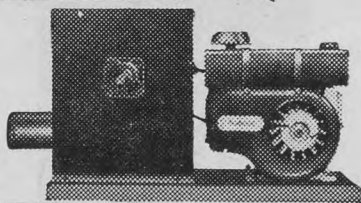


A 2,000-watt 32-volt D.C. light plant, fully complete as illustrated, that will provide faithful service for a good many years. Not too large but designed so as to take up only small space, yet powerful and dependable. Push button starting. Smooth running. Ball bearing equipped generator. Complete with popular 5 h.p. Clarke Gasoline Air-Cooled Engine.

\$195.00

Also, 3 only, 800-watt 32-volt light plant's. Push button starting. Have 3 h.p. Clarke Gasoline Engine. Regularly priced at \$225.00.

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**An Excellent Opportunity to
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The Universal is a compact, economical grain dryer. Delivers a powerful blast of air at the rate of about 3,000 cubic feet per minute. Dries damp grain in short order. Solidly built. With 3 h.p. Clarke Gasoline Engine as illustrated. Regular \$195.00.

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Special Less engine, regular \$98.00. Special **\$79.00**

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WINNIPEG, MAN.

25 to pass the enabling legislation on the national pension plan, but with politics as they are it wouldn't be too surprising if the session were used as a general forum for attack and defence of the government by members who haven't the patience to wait for the regular spring session.

Next to hospital insurance and the government's all-round record, the most contentious issue in the province lately has been milk and what to do about it. The dairy farmer's plight has been receiving attention from the three-man provincial milk board and it's generally believed that something fairly drastic will have to be done if the dairy industry is to continue operation.

It has been argued that British Columbia farmers have consistently been receiving more money for their product than milk producers anywhere else in Canada, and still they can't show a reasonable profit. In fact, scores of them are losing money and getting out of the business.

Market controls over the entire industry are being urged in order to avoid a critical milk shortage this winter. One proposal is that the government impose the quota system on milk marketing on all Fraser Valley dairymen and take over control of the ice cream market, over which the milk board now lacks jurisdiction. The quota system, it is claimed, would present a guaranteed milk market in times of surplus to all producers who had managed to meet the market's demands during periods of slack production. Distributors are said to be selling ice cream at a loss and charging the loss indirectly to the producer by spreading it over the entire dairy field. The whole situation this year has been complicated by high prices for beef, encouraging the farmer to slaughter his herds, and by drought which has curtailed the supply of feed. It's been a tough year all round for the dairyman.

SOME form of government aid appears inevitable because milk is a product too close to the over-all economy and to the common interest of everyone to be ignored. Just how the aid will be applied isn't at all certain. It might come in the form of subsidies, although these are being opposed in several quarters. It might come from a progressive program to build up production of hay and fodder crops. Whatever the remedy it will have to be applied quickly, but few are optimistic enough to expect the patient to make a speedy recovery. The dairy industry has been ailing too long for that. The seriousness of the situation was underscored a few days ago when Harry Reifel, one of the biggest producers in the Fraser Valley, sold his herd of 200 Jersey cows to American dairymen. He said he couldn't afford to carry on.

As this is written the Okanagan apple industry is facing a crisis, too. As a result of the long drought there has been an unusually heavy "drop" of apples and consequently a hurry-up demand for pickers, not just for school boys and girls, but able-bodied men capable of doing a pretty arduous job in hillside orchards. Almost every year the Okanagan has a harvesting problem, but this year's seems to be one of the most serious. It will be interesting to see how the area's characteristic resourcefulness meets the test.

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Handy Grooming Brush attachment for Clipmaster does a more thorough job of cleaning dairy cattle. Sold through dealers.

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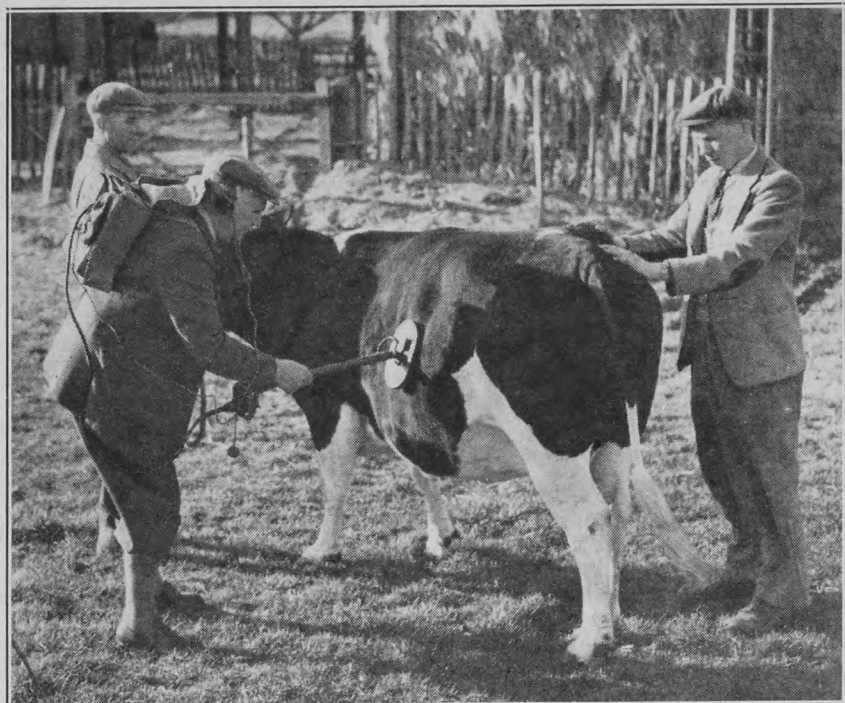


**New neckwear
for Dobbin**

To take a load off horses' shoulders — and their owners' minds — a harnessmaker in Ontario has developed horse-collars with lightweight aluminum hames.

This company is just one of over 1000 in Canada who, by manufacturing aluminum articles, make life easier for everyone who has to carry or clean. Since this is going on all over the world, it means more and more people wanting aluminum. We in Canada are fortunate in having the waterpower to generate electricity to make aluminum for ourselves and the rest of the free world. Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd. (Alcan).

News of Agriculture



A British veterinarian uses a mine detector to locate a metallic object swallowed by a cow.

Livestock Price Peaks

MANY hundreds of prairie farmers have no doubt been making comparisons during recent months between prices now paid for market livestock and those they received during the "terrible thirties." One noteworthy comparison of this kind was published some time ago by the Lethbridge Herald, after J. J. Tiffin, a dairyman a few miles southeast of Lethbridge, had sold an aged Holstein bull at the daily auction at the Lethbridge stockyards at \$30.30 cwt. for a gross of \$781.74 for the 2,580-pound bull. A neighbor, it appears, told about selling 25 producing dairy cows during the thirties at \$30 per head for a total of \$750.

This serves to highlight some of the prices received during September and October in southern Alberta, where the Community Auction Sales Association has a program of 43 auctions, beginning August 15 and ending December 3. At Pincher, for instance, on September 7 a record at that time, for the season, of \$35 per cwt. was secured for a lot of 16 steers. At the same sale, 361 head averaged \$281.05. On September 18, a carload of steers brought \$35.25 per cwt. at Pakowki, and 312 head averaged \$266.88. On the 21st, a carload of steers and another of calves brought \$36.75 per cwt., the sale averaging \$296.43 for 387 head. At Park Bend on the 27th, 567 head of cattle averaged \$302.87. At Lundbreck on the 28th, 489 cattle averaged \$298.77, with one calf touching \$36 per cwt. At Mekastoe on October 9, 572 cattle were sold, among which were a load of top-bred heifers which brought \$37.20 per cwt. At Lundbreck on October 11, 574 cattle brought an average of \$335.89. These included 200 steers from the old Waldron and Porter ranches, entered by John F. Miller. The average was 1,411 pounds in weight, and around \$33 per cwt. for a total weight of 282,230 pounds. On October 12 at Elko, B.C., the sixth Annual Livestock Auction of the Waldo Stock Breeders' Association shattered all its previous records, when average prices for all five classes were up over \$40 and calves brought a top of \$37 per cwt.

At the Saskatchewan Feeder Show Auction Sale at Moose Jaw on October

11, a price of \$36.75 per cwt. was reported for 100 head of show lambs paid by a buyer from Williston, N.D. This is thought to be an all-time record high in Canada, for feeder lambs. At this sale, 555 show lambs averaged \$34.93 per cwt., and 749 commercial lambs averaged \$33.35 per cwt., with a high of \$35.50.

The sale of 3,251 cattle at Moose Jaw on October 12 saw ten show calves belonging to Ole Olafson, Old Wives, and another ten from J. R. Moore, Valjean, sell for \$43 per cwt., considered an all-time high for feeder show cattle in Canada. The Grand Champion group of 50 show calves contributed by Ray Way, Mankota, brought \$42.25 per cwt., and a total of \$7,976.80. G. K. Grayson, Old Wives, sold 49 commercial steers at \$40.50 per cwt. Proceeds from 3,250 cattle and calves were believed to top \$600,000.

Farm Cash Income

THE Dominion Bureau of Statistics published in October a preliminary estimate of farm cash income in Canada for the six months ending June 30, 1951. The total, \$1,245,693,000, is about 40 per cent above 1950, and approximately 25 per cent above 1949. Reasons for this increase, as suggested by the Bureau, are, first, that marketings of grains were considerably higher in the early part of 1951 than in the same period of 1950, not only because of larger crops in 1950, but because of delayed deliveries during the fall months from the heavily frosted crop of last year. Second, the Canadian Wheat Board made payments to Canadian farmers earlier this year amounting to \$182.6 million (\$6.3 million in the corresponding period of 1950) in the form of participation and adjustment payments. Also, livestock prices established some new records, which were sufficient to more than offset the decline in marketings.

Including the Wheat Board payments on the wheat crops of 1940 to 1949, and the oat and barley crops of 1949, cash income from grain, seeds and hay amounted to \$361.2 million, as compared with \$129.8 million in 1950. Livestock receipts were up from

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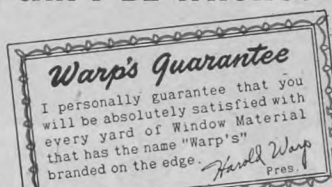
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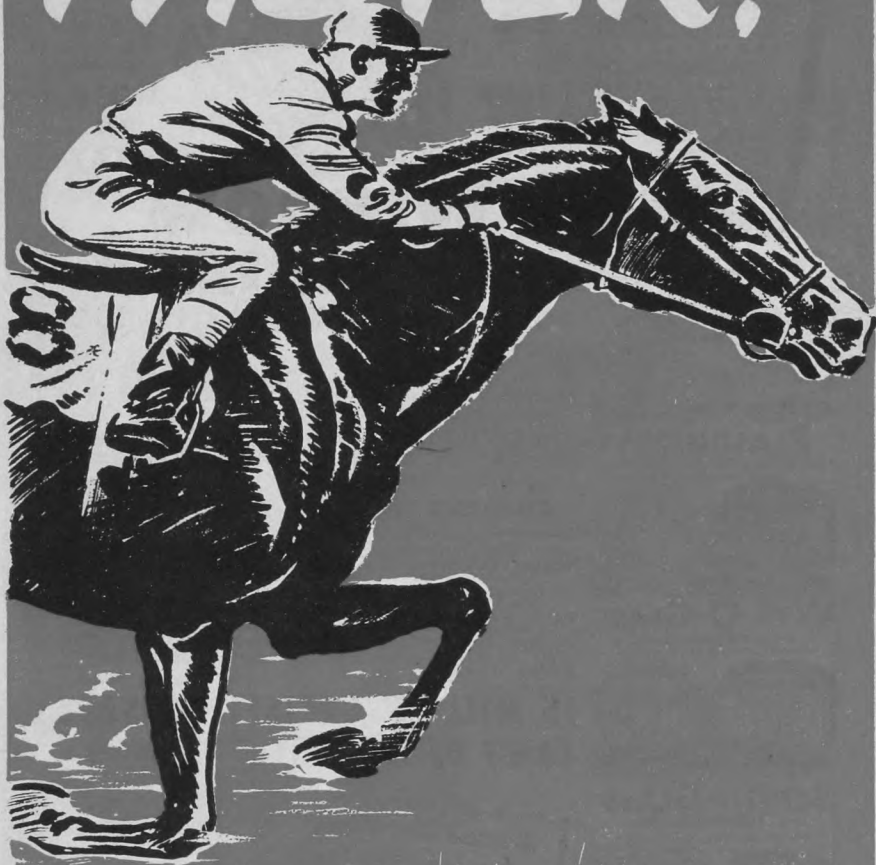
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\$403.4 million to \$494.9 million; dairy receipts, at \$168.2 million, were up 8.6 per cent; and egg receipts, up to \$62.7 million from \$50.7 million.

Field crops, livestock and dairying account for around 80 per cent of all farm cash income, the balance being made up from returns from potatoes, vegetables, sugarbeets, tobacco, fruits, eggs, wool, honey, maple products, forest products and fur farming.

1951 Wheat Quality

THE Grain Research Laboratory of the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada has issued a second report on the 1951 spring wheat crop. Only about 65 million bushels of an estimated 548 million bushels had been inspected by the first week in October. Less than 50 per cent of the crop was expected to grade No. 3 Northern and higher, due to extensive bleaching and sprouting, and varying amounts of immature, sprouted and weathered wheat, together with related types of damage caused by wet weather.

Protein content of Nos. 1 and 3 Northern wheat has averaged 13.6 per cent, with bushel weights of 64.2 and 62 pounds respectively. Protein in No. 2 Northern averaged 13.5 per cent, and bushel weight 63 pounds. While some lowering in protein may develop later in the season, the content so far is higher for all three grades than in 1950. Water absorption of the flour, together with loaf volume and appearance, are satisfactory. "Each grade," says the Laboratory, "gave a bold, well-shaped loaf with identical scores for appearance. All three doughs are described as lively and springy, with good extensibility, and there were no apparent differences in handling quality of the doughs during fermentation and panning time."

The Laboratory dealt only with Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Northern in its report, but suggested that No. 4 Northern will be a very large grade this year, probably only slightly lower in protein content than No. 3 Northern.

Summing up the report, the Laboratory describes the all-round quality of Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Northern this year as "quite satisfactory, and not much different from that of last year's samples representing the full crop year."

December Livestock Survey

AGAIN this year in December, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, co-operating with all of the provinces, will conduct the annual survey of the numbers of livestock on farms, and the cost of hired labor. Farmers will receive these forms about December 1, and are urged to fill them out fully and promptly.

Australia Vetoes Wool Plan

EVER since the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (I.F.A.P.), was formed, the farmers of various countries, through this world-wide organization, have favored the extension of international commodity agreements such as the International Wheat Agreement. Aside from the Wheat Agreement itself, not much progress has been made.

For the last year-and-a-half, however, the governments of Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and the United Kingdom have been working on an international wool stabilization plan to replace the wartime Joint Organization Plan. The Post-J.O. Wool Marketing Agreement was announced

in Australia on May 22 by the Minister for Commerce and Agriculture. It involved establishing a central authority in the United Kingdom which would be incorporated as a British company with 11 directors, including an independent, non-voting chairman. The United Kingdom and Australia would each be represented by three directors, with two each from New Zealand and South Africa. In South Africa and New Zealand, the local authorities would be set up by the governments and industries concerned. In Australia, it was proposed to set up an authority known as The Australian Wool Organization (A.W.O.). This body would be grower-controlled and constituted by Act of Parliament without being subject to ministerial direction. Seven of its ten members would be chosen by wool growers, and of the other three, one would be nominated by the government, one chosen for his knowledge of wool marketing, and the other would act as chairman.

The Plan would be set up for a five-year period. The Dominion authorities would be empowered to buy, hold and sell wool; to establish "reserve" prices for each lot of wool offered at auction in accordance with reserve prices for types of wool fixed by the central authority. Wool not purchased at higher-than-reserve prices at auction would be bought by the Dominion authority and sold in accordance with the policy established by the central authority. The auction system would be maintained throughout, and according to the minister, would "impose no obligation on the grower to sell, nor does it deny him the right to withdraw his wool from sale, or to fix his own reserve price."

The scheme was to have been capitalized at £82,500,000, of which £58,750,000 would have been available to buy-in Australian wool. Of this amount, £48,070,000 would have been contributed by Australian growers and £10,680,000 by the United Kingdom. In all, the United Kingdom would have contributed £15 million to the total capitalization. Contribution by Australian growers would have come from a five per cent levy on wool sales which was expected to yield about £47 million.

(The Australian wool cheque for last year was £A654,017,041 as compared with £A286,628,911 for the same period last year. Sales involved 3,547,195 bales at an average price of £A179/7/9, or 144.94d per pound.)

Even before the full details of the plan were made available to Australian growers, serious opposition developed, and with the details, the argument became bitter and prolonged. It was provided that a referendum of Australian growers was to be held on August 23, and spokesmen for many organizations of different kinds, in the several wool-producing states, were busily engaged in defending and criticizing the plan. Both the Prime Minister and the Minister of Commerce and Agriculture urged a favorable vote, but when the day of the referendum arrived the growers turned it down. All growers were entitled to vote who had a minimum of 200 sheep, or, during the year ended June 30, 1951, had delivered for sale no fewer than five bales of shorn wool. Voting was compulsory.

Thus ended another attempt to introduce price stabilization into farm commodities entering into international trade.

Get It at a Glance

Matters of interest to farmers

BETWEEN the first of April and the middle of September this year, Cardston was the wettest area in Alberta with 26.14 inches precipitation. At Calgary, precipitation was 21.9 inches; Lethbridge, 17.9 inches; Medicine Hat and Beaverlodge, 14.3 inches; Edmonton, 12.9 inches, and Empress (lowest), 7.8 inches.

SINCE 1946-47, a national school lunch program has been authorized by the U.S. Congress to be administered by the Department of Agriculture. In the 1950-51 school year, more than 8,600,000 children, or ten per cent more than in 1949-50, participated in this program. A total of 1.4 billion lunches were served during the year, of which 67 per cent were complete lunches (Type A—to furnish at least one-third of a child's daily nutritional requirements). Total cost of the program in 1950-51 was \$350,000,000 of which \$115,000,000 was furnished by the U.S.D.A.

THE new School of Agriculture and Home Economics established by the Alberta government at Fairview in the Peace River district, was officially opened on November 6.

BRITAIN has 9,630,000 cattle. Of these, seven million are in England, one million in Wales, and 1,600,000 in Scotland. Biggest cattle county is Yorkshire, with over 750,000. Next come Devon, Somerset, Cornwall, Shropshire and Lancaster. Biggest Scottish cattle county is Aberdeen with 255,500 and Ayr next with 154,000. Biggest Welsh county is Carmarthen with 142,000.

ONTARIO had, at the beginning of this year, 491 credit unions, a record number for the province. Membership increased by more than 26,000 to almost 145,000 during the year, when some 70,000 loans were made for a total of more than \$22,000,000.

THE difference in beef prices between the amount paid Australian producers by the U.K. government, and the price which could be secured in the United States if neither the Australian nor the U.S. governments interfered, was reported recently by Queensland Country Life, official organ of the United Graziers' Association of Queensland. The U.K. government is paying 9.6d per pound, f.o.b. Australian ports, for beef that could be sold in the United States for 42d per pound, f.o.b. Australian ports.

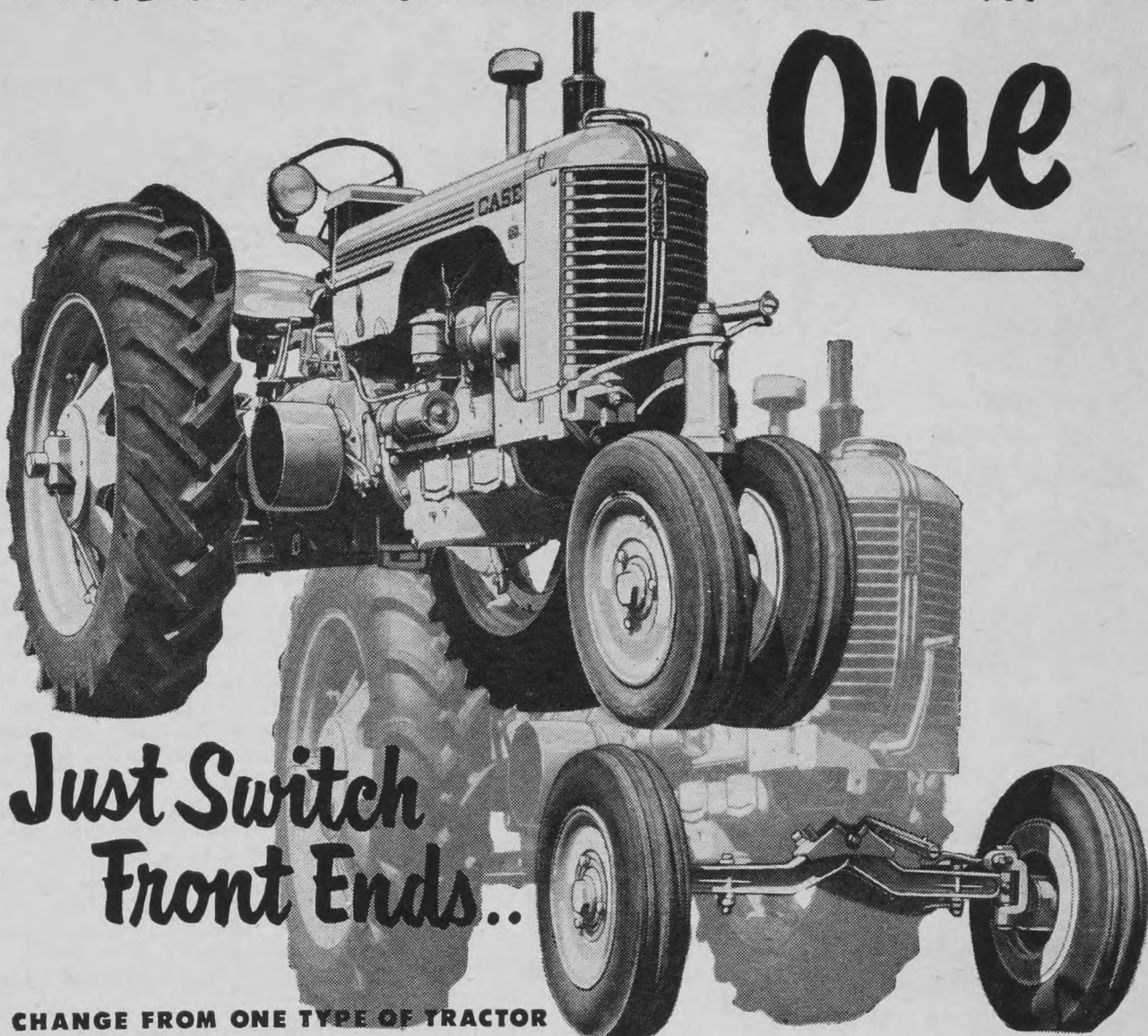
IN 1949, the average wage of male farm help per month without board as at August 15 was \$115. Last year, this average figure rose to \$120 on August 15, 1950, and to \$135 at the same date this year.

THE World Health Organization, reporting the results of a survey of world population in 51 countries, reports that in the last 50 years, more persons have been added to world population than were actually living, in 1900, in the entire world except in Asia; and adds that the rate of increase for the 20th century shows world population to be increasing as never before.

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**CHANGE FROM ONE TYPE OF TRACTOR
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Now you can have the high clearance and short turning of a row-crop tractor for planting and cultivating—and yet, through the rest of the year, enjoy the stable footing and furrow-following ability of a standard 4-wheel tractor. Get both types of tractor for little more than the price of one. With the fast all-purpose "DC" Tractor and a few extra front-end parts, you can switch over to a standard 4-wheeler in half an hour. This way, you can have a fast cultivating tractor when you need it and a big plowing tractor when that's most practical. Only Case builds a tractor with this change-over advantage—only Case dealers can demonstrate it.

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Get on the seat of a Case "DC" Tractor at your Case dealer's, next trip to town. Feel its comfort, note how the seat can be pushed back to permit safe standing while driving. Arrange for a demonstration on your farm. Watch its extra lugging pull take you through tough spots. See how the fast hydraulic control speeds your work, saves your strength. Test the steering for quick dodging that gets the weeds and spares the crop—for fast steering on the straightaway, for powerful leverage in sharp turns. Test it for its shock-stopping design that lets even a youngster work rough ground without fighting the wheel. Your Case dealer will explain the quick-change front end. See him about it right away!



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...to get maximum performance and economy from powerful, clean-burning LPG fuel. You can order any Case "D" Series or "LA" Tractor LPG-equipped.

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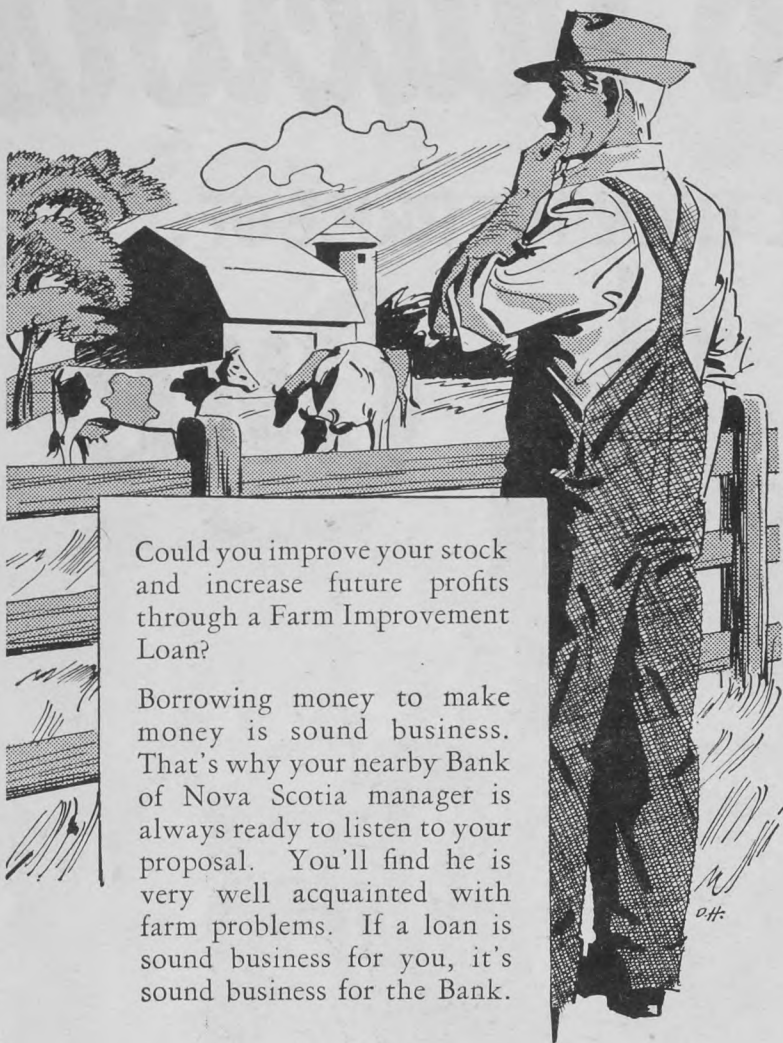
Case builds a full line of farm machines. Mark in squares or write in margin any that interest you; mail today to J. I. Case Co., Dept. CG-11, Calgary, Regina, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Winnipeg or Toronto.

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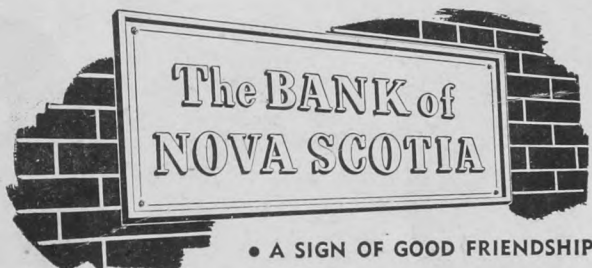
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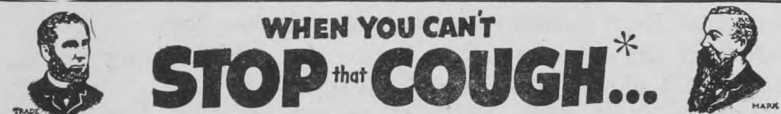
Could you improve your stock and increase future profits through a Farm Improvement Loan?

Borrowing money to make money is sound business. That's why your nearby Bank of Nova Scotia manager is always ready to listen to your proposal. You'll find he is very well acquainted with farm problems. If a loan is sound business for you, it's sound business for the Bank.



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GET REAL 3-WAY RELIEF!**

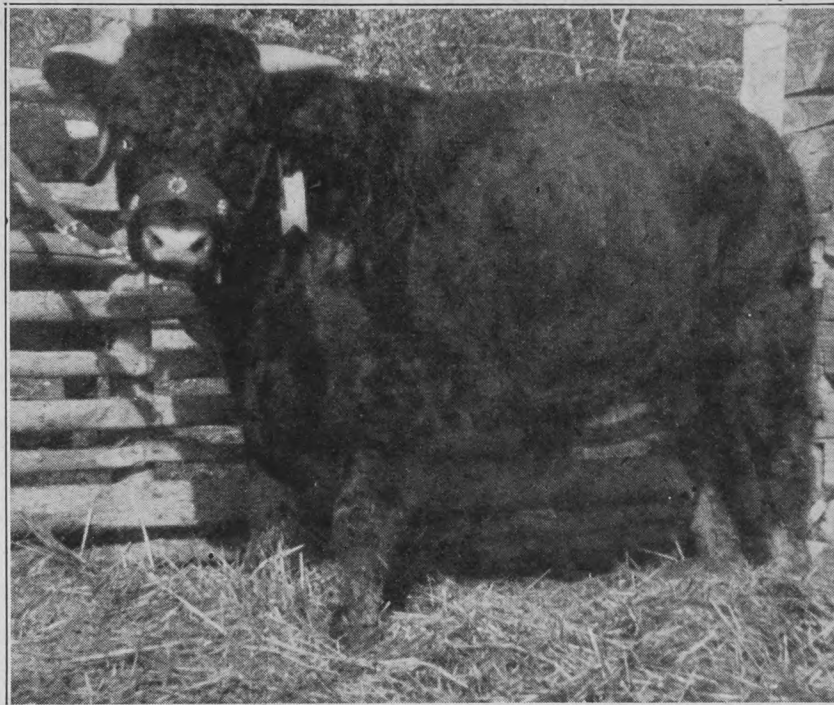
1. Ease dry throat tickle
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3. Help loosen clinging throat substances



*due to colds, smoking

SMITH BROTHERS BLACK COUGH DROPS STILL ONLY **10¢**

LIVESTOCK



[Photo by H. Harrison]

Bearcroft Baron, owned by G. W. Rann, Dawson Creek, B.C., was grand champion shorthorn at the recent Dawson Creek Fiesta Livestock Show.

Alberta Beef Feeding Trials

EXPERIMENTS in the feeding of beef cattle at the University of Alberta have now been conducted for 30 years, ever since 1921. In a review of these beef cattle experiments by Dr. L. W. McElroy, head of the Animal Science Department of the University, he points out that there have only been two seasons (1935-36 and 1937-38), in which the prices paid for barley in the fall were higher than the returns secured when barley was marketed in the form of beef, in the spring. The prices paid for barley have ranged from 16 cents per bushel in 1930 to \$1.25 per bushel in 1950, and the returns for the barley, marketed through steers, have varied from a low of 13 cents per bushel in 1936 to a high of \$3.94 cents in 1951. Over the whole period, the average price paid for a bushel of barley was 54 cents, and the average return per bushel when marketing through beef was \$1.01. The difference of 47 cents provided a fair amount to cover overhead in buildings, death losses and labor returns.

In only two years (1936 and 1939) did finished steers bring less per hundredweight than they cost as feeders. In the other years, the margin varied from 28 cents to \$7.89 and averaged \$1.97 per 100 pounds for the entire 30-year period.

As to the amount of feed required to carry steers through a period of 150 feeding days, the Department estimates, as a result of its long experience, that yearling steers will require 1,500 pounds of hay, 1,700 pounds of grain, 105 pounds linseed oilmeal, nine pounds of salt, and on this feed could be expected to make an average daily gain of 2.17 pounds. If the hay mixture available contains more than one-quarter of alfalfa hay, protein supplements such as linseed oilmeal are not essential. When such supplements are scarce, the full amount of 105 pounds need not be fed; and it is suggested that the use of linseed oilmeal and other protein supplements be limited to the last eight to ten weeks of the finishing period, and fed at about one-half pound per day per steer.

If the amount of grain available is limited, the Department has found, in three trials averaging 142 days each, that a gain of 251 pounds for the period can be secured on 1,033 pounds of grain and 2,218 pounds of alfalfa-grass-oat hay, full-fed throughout. To achieve this result, no grain was fed for 56 days, and then full-fed. By this method, more than a quarter of a ton more hay was marketed through each yearling steer, and the grain requirement per steer reduced by from ten to 12 bushels. Moreover, the steers so fed produced nearly as high a percentage of Grade "A" carcasses as those fed grain throughout.

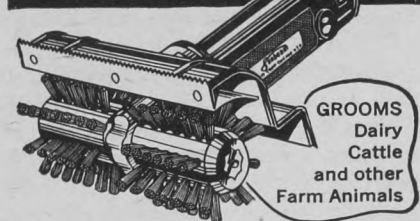
A series of four trials some years ago, in different years, brought out the fact that when steers were self-fed, instead of hand-fed, they finished in 15 days' less time than those that were hand-fed. The self-fed calves ate 20 per cent more grain and 27 per cent less hay than those hand-fed, but they put on extra finish, and the premium secured more than made up for the higher costs of gain at that time under the self-feeding system.

Variation in Cream Tests

PROBABLY no creameryman has ever been in business for as long as a year without wanting to tear his hair because of difficulties in satisfying patrons in the matter of cream tests. Perhaps his patrons want to tear his hair, also, because they think the tests they receive are too low. In many cases it would be fairer if he were to ask them why their cream tests have varied, because some of the reasons lie within their control.

It is not always easy to figure out the reason for the variations, but here are some of them that are principally in the producer's control. The first is that the fat content of the milk of an individual cow will vary for several reasons, one of which depends on the stage in the lactation period when test is made. Other causes have to do with the temperature of the milk when it is separated, the amount of milk in the separator tank, the speed of the separator bowl, the steadiness of the bowl when the separator is running, whether the separator is kept reasonably clean

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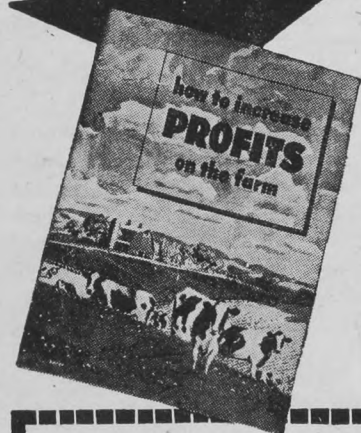
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all the time, and whether the flush water or skim milk varies in amount from time to time, and whether the excess is allowed to run into the cream.

If these factors are uniform steadily, and variations in cream tests still exist, the time has come to look around for some other reason. Even then, variations within a reasonable range are to be expected.

Home Butchering

THE home killing of hogs for winter consumption is still in general practice, notwithstanding the development of locker plants and the use of deep freezing. The meat keeps well during the winter, but unless really cool storage is available during the following summer, the lard may become rancid. This makes it not only unpalatable, but harmful, since this rancidity may destroy essential vitamins in other foods. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that of the 500,000,000 pounds of lard made on farms each year, ten per cent is lost to trade use because of rancidity.

The Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry in the U.S.D.A. has, therefore, been studying the problem of improving the keeping quality of home-rendered lard. They now recommend adding two or three pounds of vegetable shortening to each 50 pounds of lard during rendering, which will keep the lard fresh at least twice as long as untreated lard.

The reason animal fats, such as lard, become rancid more quickly than vegetable oils, is that the latter contain much greater amounts of natural antioxidants than are needed to protect the oils against rancidity. Thus, when some of these vegetable oils, such as Crisco and other hydrogenated vegetable shortenings, are added to lard, the surplus antioxidants they contain are sufficient to protect the lard from rancidity for an appreciable length of time.

An antioxidant is a substance which prevents oxygen from attacking the fat and breaking it down. Before the white man came to North America, the Indians knew about these antioxidants, though they were ignorant of chemistry. Nevertheless, they added oak bark extract to the fat of bears, to keep the fat from spoiling. The most common antioxidant is vitamin E, called tocopherol, which is generally found in appreciable amounts in most vegetable fats. Animal fats have very little of these substances. Some vegetable oils contain other antioxidants, but their effect tends to be the same.

Feeding Unsound Grain

THIS is a year of much better-than-average crops and probably much less-than-average quality, due to weather conditions from the beginning of harvest until late fall. When livestock come off pasture, there may be a question as to what kinds of grain it will be safe to feed, and how much.

There is never any difficulty about feeding sound wheat, oats or barley. Unsound grain may be a different matter. If it is ergoty, it is harmful and should not be fed at all, says the Swift Current Experimental Station, if the ergot bodies make up as much as one-tenth of one per cent of the grain. Smut of grains or roughages that are rusted are not injurious, nor is sprouted grain injurious. The latter, though somewhat lower in feeding value than sound grain, is entirely

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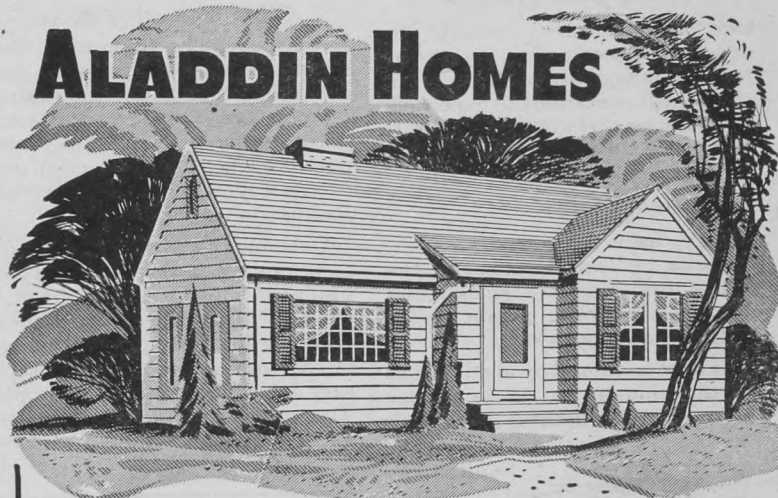
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Farm Service Facts



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Operation and Care of Space Heaters

Just as in ships, locomotives and factory furnaces, oil has displaced coal, so in domestic heating the use of oil is being demanded more and more by housewives who want clean, even heat with a minimum of chores.

Correct Size Heater Gives Comfort and Economy

If a heater is too small, room temperature may be too low. If it is too large, it may result in waste of fuel. Where houses have ordinarily been hard to heat, poor insulation and lack of weather stripping may be the cause. In many cases, however, the installation of two small heaters rather than one, will give greater satisfaction.

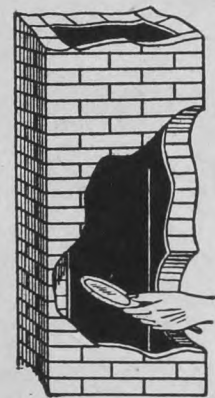
Correct Draft Essential

One of the main essentials for satisfactory heater service is correct chimney draft. There are three draft conditions to cope with—insufficient draft, down draft and too much draft.

Insufficient Draft

A lazy, hazy flame and no heat, deposits of "soft" carbon in the heater and possibly smoke and soot in the house points to insufficient chimney draft.

It may be caused by obstructions in the chimney or loose mortar between bricks forming cracks and allowing air to enter the chimney. Locate and remove obstructions or repair the outside of the chimney using fresh mortar. Soot which frequently accumulates at sharp bends in the chimney may be removed by raising and lowering, by means of a long rope, a brick or iron pipe wrapped in burlap.



To test chimney draft, light a sizeable wad of crumpled newspaper in the vent opening. If bits of paper come down in 3 or 4 minutes draft is insufficient. To examine a straight chimney for obstructions use a hand mirror as shown in diagram.

Down Draft

If the heater "puffs" or "roars" alternately or if there is a gas smell or oil odor in the house it may be caused by a down draft in the chimney. The remedy may be to extend the chimney at least 2 feet above the tallest object surrounding the house or to attach a chimney crown to the top of the chimney. Both may be necessary in special cases.

Excessive Draft

Too much draft causes oil to be consumed faster than necessary. The heater may "roar", the flame may not come out of the burner and the fuel may seem to boil in the burner. The standard draft meter or regulator should prevent excessive draft; however in rare cases it is necessary to install an extra draft meter.

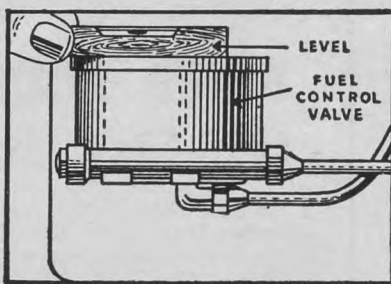
Chimney Connections

If possible long stove pipes should be avoided. The horizontal section of the pipe extending from the elbow to the chimney should rise toward the chimney at least one-half inch for each foot of pipe. Guard against leaks around the stove pipe.

Other Operating Hints

It is extremely important that when the room temperature rises above or drops below the desired temperature, that the adjustment of the burner be a slight one. Turning the burner "all off" or "all on" is wasteful of fuel and cannot yield the maximum comfort.

Cleaning the burner pot to make sure the small holes around the inside of the burner are open is essential for complete combustion. Cleaning the feed tube and strainer of the control valve is also necessary for a free flowing oil supply. The adjustment of the oil control valve should be left strictly alone.



To ensure the proper flow of fuel check the fuel control valve for horizontal level by placing a small hand level on top of valve name plate and adjust legs of the heater unit until control valve is level in both directions.

During the Winter some dirt and moisture probably found its way into the heater tank. As this might cause corrosion in summer when the heater is idle, each spring, when shutting off heater for the summer, drain and clean tank and leave it empty.

A large manufacturer of space heaters estimates that in 50% of the cases heater performance can be improved. For maximum satisfaction it will pay to check your whole heating system before winter sets in. For further details on the operation and care of the burner, refer to the manual provided by the manufacturer.

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safe to feed, though a little more than usual will be necessary.

A great deal of available roughage may also be of inferior quality, if it was in the field during a prolonged rainy spell, or if it became slightly heated in the stack. Swift Current authorities say that hay that has been exposed to a lot of rain may lose up to 25 per cent of its dry matter and perhaps 50 per cent of its protein, as well as practically all the vitamin A. This will mean adding to this kind of roughage some protein supplement in order to get good results. Hay that has been heated to some extent will also have lost some of its nutrients, so that additional amounts must be fed to get the same results as from sound hay. If the hay has been very musty or dusty, it would be better to use it for bedding.

A warning is given against frozen or immature flax because of the danger of prussic acid poisoning. If in doubt about the condition of flax for feed, have a chemical analysis made. This will detect any evidence of prussic acid.

Livestock Feeding Industry

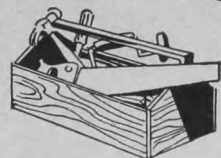
PROSPECTS in the livestock feeding industry, especially for cattle and lambs, were perhaps never so fascinating, and at the same time so potentially dangerous, as now. With current high prices for market cattle (see page 15), and the apparently insatiable demand for beef both in Canada and the United States, the temptation to the inexperienced feeder has been very great. It has not been lessened by the tendency toward lower prices for feed grains and the prospect of an abundance of feed, both of roughage and home-grown grains, as a consequence of the splendid growing year in 1951 and the carryover of low-grade wheat from 1950.

No assessment of the meat price situation at this time could be considered final, because it is dominated by the general inflationary condition of the national economies of both the United States and Canada. This is a factor entirely outside of the agricultural industry, and it is by no means clear as yet whether the efforts initiated some months ago by both the U.S. and Canadian governments will be effective in stabilizing prices at the present levels, even if they cannot effect an all-round decline of any magnitude.

There are certain favorable and unfavorable circumstances which have a bearing on the situation, to which it is worthwhile calling attention. Among the conditions favoring a continuation of high prices is the fact that there is plenty of employment at steadily increasing salaries and wages, for nearly everyone. This means a stronger market for farm products, including meat. The populations of the United States and Canada are increasing very rapidly, which means a larger market for farm products. The experience of the last few years has clearly established the place of meat in the diet on this continent, especially as incomes increase. Neither the government of the United States nor the government of Canada has as yet introduced rigid price controls. An increasing preference for quality meats, and the improvement in the system of retail distribution, are factors tending to encourage meat consumption. There

Building Ideas FOR THE Farm

**PRACTICAL HINTS
ON MATERIALS AND METHODS**



You probably read about the spectacular fire at Rimouski and the equally disastrous blaze at Cabano. These fires which did a total damage of over \$30,000,000, were caused by everyday occurrences. The Rimouski fire resulted from a power line pole being blown over in a heavy wind storm and the Cabano blaze was attributed to a burning chip from a chimney. Large fires such as these make the national headlines, but Canada's greatest fire losses come from the thousands of smaller fires that break out every day. Fire prevention on the farm is a day-in-day-out "must." One of the surest ways to guard against fire on the farm is to build with fireproof asbestos building materials.

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is also a marked, though too much retarded, tendency among producers to introduce labor-saving devices into livestock production, which tends to lower the costs of production. It is also probable, though by no means entirely clear as yet, that the auction system of selling which has become the popular one in recent years, tends to assure producers of a somewhat fuller market price.

On the other side of the picture is the growing feeling that inflation has gone dangerously far. By comparison with what may be considered to be more normal prices for meat, present prices are in the realm of the fantastic. Hog prices have recently taken a sharp drop and in this connection it must be realized that the consumption of pork has risen in recent years as the consumption of beef has dropped due to growing scarcity and relatively sharp price increases. The livestock population in Canada is increasing very slowly and much less rapidly than the cattle population of the United States.

On the whole, the situation is such as to call for great care and the best judgment of which the producer is capable. Cull animals should be disposed of while the going is still good. With prices so favorable, it would be foolish to go out of commercial sheep and cattle because of what might happen, but it would be equally foolish to plunge beyond the limits of carefully calculated risk.

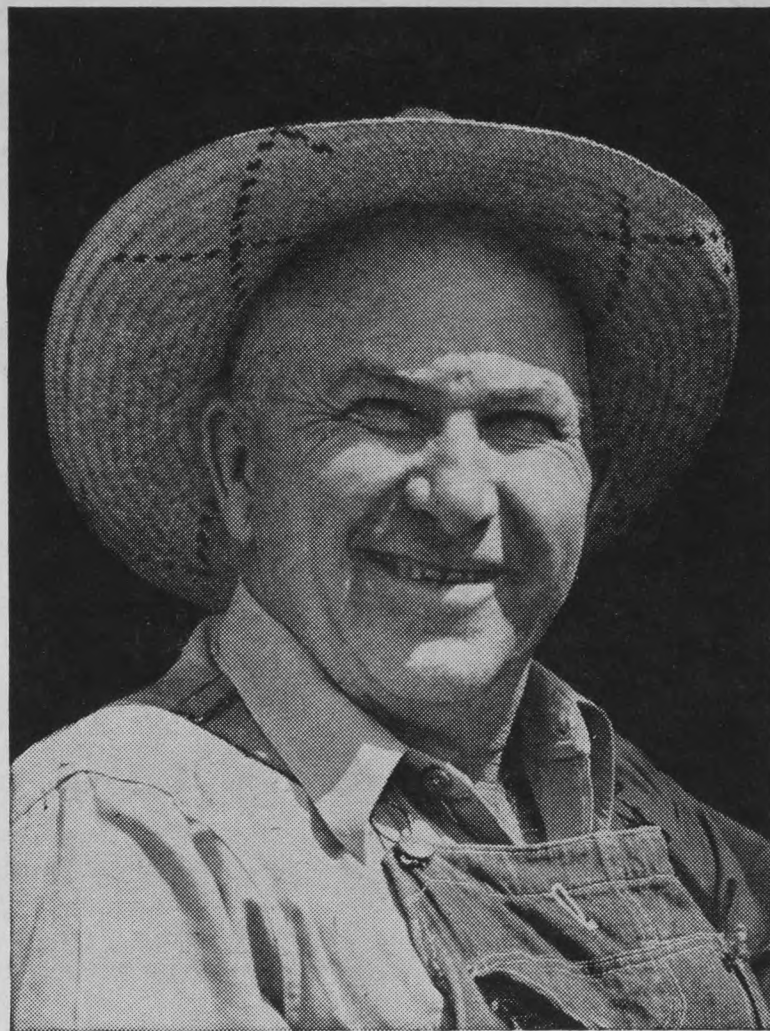
Yearly Feed Requirements

DAIRY cows producing 25 pounds of four per cent milk require almost twice as much feed as dry cows, to meet their nutrient requirements. The Animal Science Department of the University of Alberta points out that this extra feed required for milk production must be secured chiefly from concentrate mixtures, since, while cattle use large quantities of roughage, the amounts of roughage they can consume are limited.

An average cow of 1,200 pounds live weight producing about four per cent milk, will consume about three tons of roughage during the indoor period, plus adequate grazing during the pasture season. The pasture required would amount to from 2 to 2½ acres of cultivated pasture in productive areas where the soil is good and rainfall is ample. Where these conditions are only fair, from 3½ to 4 acres will be necessary, and if the pasture available is good irrigated pasture one acre is estimated to be sufficient. Where native pasture or bushland is used, three acres of native pasture or ten acres of bushland are taken to equal one acre of cultivated pasture.

The amount of concentrates required for yearly supply will vary with the level of milk production. Taking medium-producing cows running from 5,500 to 7,500 pounds milk per cow, it is estimated that about 200 pounds of grain would be required with summer pasture, and an additional 1,800 pounds for winter feeding.

If, for example, a 24 per cent protein supplement was fed, consisting of two parts of wheat bran and one part of linseed meal, about 300 pounds of this supplement would be needed, if a mixture of legume and grass hay were fed; and about 600 pounds if a grass or cereal hay was fed. These differences are due to the fact that legume hay is much richer in protein.



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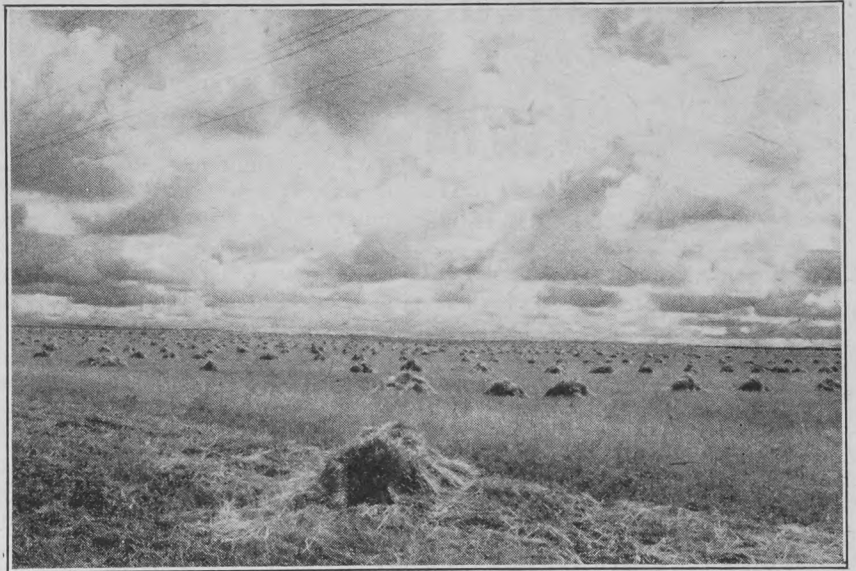


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FIELD



[Guide Photo]
Good harvest weather has been rare this year with the result that more than half the crop may go below No. 3 Northern. In Alberta the estimated proportion is two-thirds.

Too Many Machines?

IN these days of farm labor scarcity and tricky weather, there is perhaps a danger that some farms will become overcapitalized in machinery and equipment, and have a substantial amount of money tied up in equipment which will not return interest on the money invested in it.

This can come about through too much equipment lying idle, or obtaining machinery at too great a cost for an individual machine, or, having too much money invested in machinery in relation to the yearly output of the farm.

It is also probable that there are quite a number of farms where there is an actual undercapitalization in farm equipment, to the point where most of the money already invested in machinery and implements is returning less income than it ought to, because of failure to close the gap by the addition of one or two other pieces of equipment. Using a horse implement behind a tractor is an example of the inefficient use of money invested in the tractor.

Mechanization is perhaps the greatest single boon which has come to agriculture in the last 50 years. Nevertheless, it can cut down as well as increase net farm income, unless careful management goes with it. It is well to mechanize everything on the farm as rapidly as mechanization can be justified, but it is also well to regard every prospective purchase of a new piece of equipment with a somewhat jaundiced eye. After all, such equipment can serve only two useful functions: one is to produce more of some desirable product for each hour of man-labor put into it, and the other is to raise the level of living of the farm family. This means that a machine must enable the farmer to produce more, at a profit. If it cannot help to do both, its purchase is something of a luxury, and it should be so regarded.

Effect of Manure Lasts

AT the Lethbridge Experimental Station, there is an eight-year rotation of sugarbeets (two years), wheat, wheat-and-alfalfa, three years of alfalfa, and finally, wheat. On each of the eight plots, there are four fertility treatments given: barnyard

manure plus fertilizer; barnyard manure and mineral fertilizer separately; and no manure or fertilizer. Manure is applied at 30 tons per acre plowed in in the fall, prior to the first year of beets. Before use, it is piled for a year to kill weed seeds.

The increases from the eight plots from the manure alone amounted to 14.86 tons of sugarbeets; 19.5 bushels of wheat; and 4.72 tons of alfalfa hay, which would give the manure a value of \$12 per ton in such a rotation. Moreover, eight years after the manure was applied, there was an average annual increase of 9.5 bushels of wheat.

Adding barnyard manure and phosphatic fertilizer produced still higher yields, but the fertilizer alone failed to produce as high yields as did the manure alone. The station reports that "the phosphatic fertilizer was able to maintain fair yields for all crops. Without it, sugarbeets cannot be grown economically, but organic manure was necessary to produce a really high yield."

Money from Grass

IN the southwest part of Saskatchewan, there is a large area of perhaps 30 million acres, all told, where water for growing crops in the form of rainfall or other precipitation, or even water for irrigation, is very limited. This area is regarded as a natural livestock area, for in the long run, more money can be made from grass than from grain crops.

The Experimental Station at Swift Current presents some evidence in support of mixed farming practice as against straight grain production. It puts the carrying capacity of native grasslands in southwestern Saskatchewan, on average loam soil, at from six to ten head of mature cattle per quarter section. A crested wheatgrass pasture will carry about twice as many. Several pastures, each containing a different grass, will carry still more livestock, say the station authorities, if these grasses are grazed at the right time. The maximum carrying capacity is put as high as 24 head per quarter section.

The grasses suggested for a rotational pasture program are: (1) crested wheatgrass for spring grazing; (2) brome grass or intermediate wheat-

grass for use during the summer; and (3) Russian wild ryegrass for late summer and fall grazing. The crested wheatgrass would also be available for fall grazing as well. The recommendation is, however, that one pound of alfalfa seed should be sown along with each grass in order to secure the maximum production.

Old Pastures

IN an effort to determine the best method of rejuvenating old pastures which had been overgrazed and were dominated by prairie sage, the Experimental Station at Scott, Saskatchewan, tried eight different tillage treatments at three seasons of the year, early September, late October, and early spring.

A. G. Kusch reports that the more severe the tillage treatment, the better the results were, when crested wheat grass was used for seeding. Further, where a uniform standard of crested wheat grass was secured, sage would not become established under good pasture management, but while the crested wheat would tend to keep out the pasture sage, "it would not chase it out."

Tillage was required before seeding. Broadcasting the seed and then disking and drilling it in without any previous treatment, resulted in a very poor stand and very poor plants. The sage still predominated. A double harrowing was little better. A single disking produced a slight improvement and a little more reduction in the amount of sage. A road drag pulled over the pasture before seeding was better. A double disking gave fair stands, but a double disking several times, resulted in a fairly good clean-out of the sage and a moderately good stand of grass. The most uniform and vigorous grass stand and, at the same time, a complete elimination of all the seeds, resulted from plowing before seeding.

The efficiency of these various treatments was the same whether done in early September, late October or early spring.

Liquid Fertilizer Result

AN experiment in Ohio covering both field and greenhouse experiments, each carefully controlled, was designed to test the effect of the use of liquid fertilizer on seed, as a means of increasing the yield of the crop.

In one field experiment with oats, grain yields were compared from plots on which combinations of liquid fertilizer seed treatment and the use of ordinary dry commercial fertilizer were tried. Yields on plots receiving 400 pounds per acre of 4-6-18 ordinary commercial fertilizer drilled in with the seed, averaged 58.4 bushels per acre. On plots receiving both the commercial fertilizer and the preplanting seed treatment with liquid fertilizer (one gallon of 5-10-5 per eight bushels of seed), oats averaged 58 bushels per acre. When oats received a preplanting treatment, but no commercial fertilizer, the yield was 44.8 bushels per acre. Where neither dry nor liquid fertilizer was used, the yield was 45.1 bushels per acre. In all cases, says the report of the experiment, the use of conventional dry fertilizer caused a highly significant increase in grain yield over the unfertilized treatments. The use of preplanting seed treatment had no significant effect on grain yield, regard-



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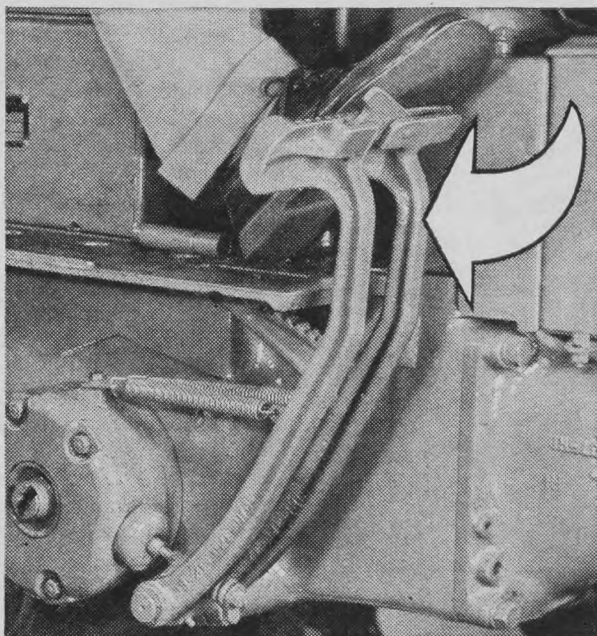
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You'll get a new tractor driving thrill when you're behind the big 18-inch steering wheel of the new Farmall Super C. You enjoy easier-than-ever steering. You'll like the comfortable cushioned seat; the smooth, accurate response of Farmall Touch-Control for lifting, lowering, adjusting equipment.



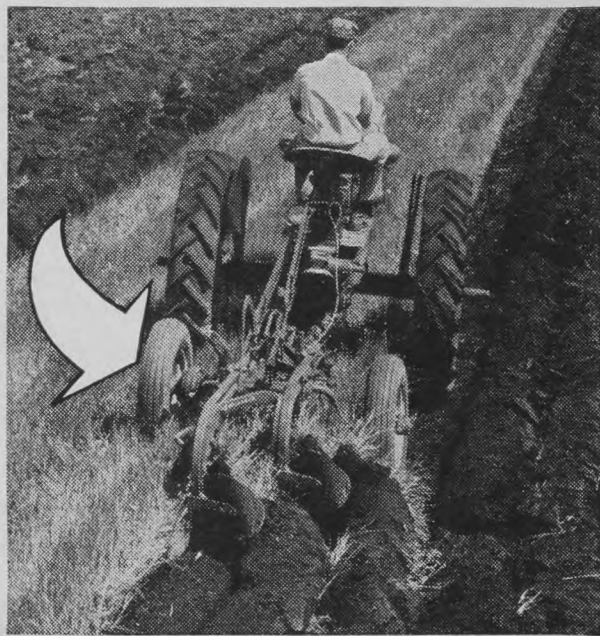
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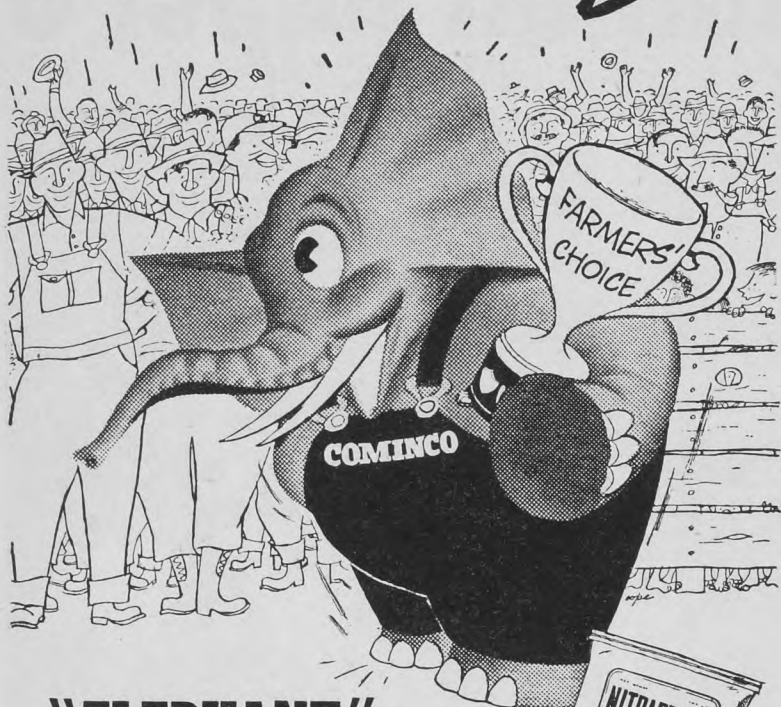
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less of whether it was used with, or without, ordinary applications of commercial fertilizer.

In general, the report states that the experiments indicate that the odds are 1,000-to-one against the preplanting treatments of field crop seed with liquid fertilizers having any beneficial effect on final yield of the crop.

It Pays To Conserve

AN analysis has been made by the Department of Agricultural Economics of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station of two groups of farms in Coshocton County. The two groups of farms were "similar in size and soil types and had approximately the same acreage in cropland, permanent pasture and woods." The main difference in the cropping program, says the report of the experiment station was "the amount of conservation practices applied on the two groups of farms."

Crop yields on the high-conservation group, the survey showed, averaged about 25 per cent more than the yields per acre on the low-conservation group of farms. Net farm income was approximately 50 per cent more for farmers who had adopted the recommended soil and water conservation program, than for those who were following soil-depleting methods of farming.

A detailed study on six of the farms for which records were available from 1937 to 1949 also showed an increase in net farm income of almost 50 per cent, "after adjustments had been made for changes in farm prices during the 13-year period." During the period when these farmers were changing over to an all-round conservation program, a slight decline in net farm income occurred because of heavier expenditures for lime and fertilizer.

For the period 1937-39, crop yields on these six farms increased about 20 per cent more than the average county yields. The amount of livestock kept increased almost 20 per cent during the 13-year period, due to expansion of dairying and poultry.

Fertilizers and Yields

CROP and soil scientists of the United States Department of Agriculture have recently completed a survey of 42 million acres in 11 western states, from the Rockies to the Pacific, as to the influence of nitrogen and phosphoric acid on the yields of 19 crops. The results suggest that increased fertilization with phosphoric oxide and nitrogen would boost the yield nearly six million tons, which is equivalent to three million acres under present rates of fertilization. Similarly, wheat yields could be increased by 48 million bushels, or the equivalent of 2,600,000 acres; and corn yields by ten bushels per acre, or, by a total of nearly ten million bushels.

Present rates of fertilizer use average about one pound of nitrogen and less than a pound of phosphoric oxide per acre, on about 14½ million acres of wheat. Corn presently receives about three pounds of nitrogen and four pounds of phosphoric oxide per acre. Pasture and cover crops are fertilized with an average of five pounds of nitrogen and eight pounds of phosphoric oxide per acre.

These scientists report that in their judgment, an eight-fold increase in

nitrogen would boost pasture yields by 21 per cent, or, by an amount equal to the present yield from approximately 700,000 acres.

Some other crops such as fruits, sugarbeets, flaxseed and potatoes, are customarily fertilized with from 34 to 44 pounds of phosphate per acre, and from 37 to 56 pounds per acre of nitrogen. These crops are associated with a higher degree of specialization and intensification. The report would seem to indicate that more profitable results might follow the use of heavier fertilizer applications on other crops not ordinarily fertilized so heavily.

Leafy Spurge

SINCE 1940, the Manitoba Weeds Commission has been developing a program of municipal weed control, and as a result 17 weed control units have been established.

Leafy spurge is one of the persistent perennials which have given a great deal of trouble. A weed survey was conducted in 1950 in the Shilo area, during the course of which a total of 1,435 patches involving 377 acres were located. Many other heavy infestations of leafy spurge have been located in previous years, and on several quite large areas the spurge has been almost completely eliminated by persistent careful treatment.

It is interesting to see from a recent announcement of the North Dakota Extension Service that a survey of ten counties has recently been made in that state. The Extension Service reports that leafy spurge is found in almost every county of North Dakota. In the ten counties surveyed, infestation averaged 182 acres along the roadside, in addition to 1,200 acres of non-cropland and approximately 308 acres of cropland infested.

Electricity Saves Time

THE Experimental Station at Swift Current suggests that the use of electricity on the farm might give the farmer the equivalent of a 13-month year—an extra 30 days for all sorts of odd jobs that sometimes have to be neglected for lack of time.

Water, if pumped by hand for the household and livestock, takes about an hour's time each day. At 60 cents per hour, this costs \$18 per month. "At the flick of the switch, an electric pump or a pressure system will do the job for \$1.50," says the Station authorities, "and at the same time release the labor to do other jobs."

Similarly, an electrically powered feed grinder will chop fresh feed daily for livestock at a cost of two or three cents per bushel, much less than when a tractor or stationary engine has to be belted to the grinder before using it. Using an electric motor to power milking machines and cream separators leaves more time to handle more cows or do other jobs around the buildings.

"The farmer will find the utility motor reduces labor and saves money by the number of uses to which it can be put, such as elevating and cleaning grain, driving power tools in the farm workshop, and operating the garden irrigation system," we are told. Also, the drudgery of housework can be reduced by using electricity to wash, iron, refrigerate and cook foods. Important, too, is the fact that lighting adds to home comfort, and tends to create a higher standard of living by improving the leisure hours for reading and social activities.



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HORTICULTURE



There are 67 Strathmore No. 22 apricots in this picture, taken by J. Edward Lambert, Edmonton, who writes the article below.

Apricots Grow at Edmonton

Heavy yield this year of prize-winning Strathmore No. 22

APRICOTS are growing successfully at Edmonton, Alberta. I grew several varieties this year. My oldest and best established variety is Strathmore No. 22. Others include Morden No. 603 and No. 604, X-2-11, X-13-192, Strathmore No. 6, Sing, as well as a number of my own seedlings. However, most of these have not reached fruiting age. It is interesting to note that some of them blossomed and bore fruit at two and three years of age. This included Morden X-2-11.

Strathmore No. 22 is a hardy and prolific bearer of good quality fruits which are one and one-quarter inches in diameter, without thinning. Although not freestone, the canned product is very pleasing, having a sweet tanginess that makes imported apricots seem flat in comparison. The yield was about the heaviest I have seen for any fruit. On the branch shown in the picture herewith, there were 67 fruits covering a bearing surface of about 20 inches.

I took the picture on August 14, 1951. They were then turning orange and red in spite of an unfavorable season. I picked them a week later, when they then won two first prizes at the Edmonton Horticultural Society's show, in open classes.

This apricot variety was selected and introduced by Mr. P. D. Hargrave, superintendent of the Provincial Horticultural Station, Brooks, Alberta. The seed was obtained from Manchuria just before the war, by the late Mr. "Gus" Griffin and planted at what was then the C.P.R. Farm at Strathmore, Alberta, 30 miles east of Calgary.

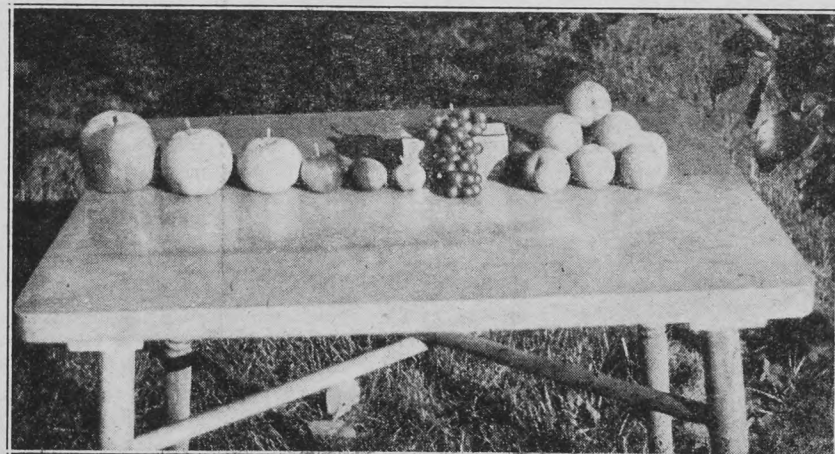
It was my very good fortune on September 2, 1946, to visit this orchard which had then become a substation of the Brooks Station. An amazing sight met my eyes. There stood a row of 44 or 45 big, hardy apricot trees, loaded with dead-ripe fruit. After an all too brief examination I thought that No. 22 was the best selection, but I understand that Mr. Hargrave also gives top rating to others such as Nos. 6, 7 and 8.

Other fruits which I grow are apples, crabapples, plums and grapes. Among the newer plums I like the quality of Ivanovka and the vigor and yield of Morden No. 125.

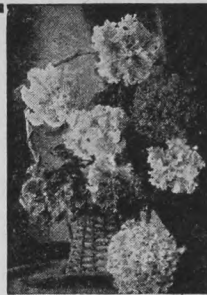
Generally, I concur with the recommended variety lists. However, I like the Rosilda apple-crab hybrid and find it hardy here, contrary to the contention of others. And I am not happy about Osman being removed from one list because of fireblight. Certainly, it suffers in a bad year if not attended to, and if grown under clean cultivation and given water and fertilizer. I have seen Osman thrive in sod or semi-sod cultures, while other varieties a few feet away were killed outright when clean cultivated.

A bright future is certain for prairie horticulture if a few warnings are heeded. Good varieties are not lacking or impossible, but the danger points are the educational, and disease control problems.

"One bad apple will spoil a whole barrel." And one negligent grower can destroy the efforts of a whole district by failing to check mosaic in raspberries, brown-rot, etc., in plums, sil-



From left to right: Breakey, Lethbridge No. 44 and Heyer No. 12 apples; Osman, Dolgo and Beauty crabapples; Minn. No. 194 grapes; and Strathmore No. 22 apricots, photographed by the writer of the article above.



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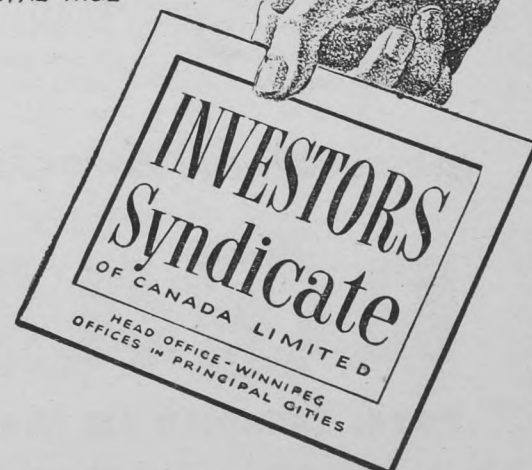
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verleaf, fireblight, and the various other diseases and pests.

It is to be hoped that the individual citizen as well as the officials concerned will not give our horticulture the "nipped in the bud" treatment.

Yes, to make the prairies gleam with lush fruit, it will require more than good varieties. We must work hard in co-operation with horticultural and experimental stations, universities, periodicals, horticultural societies, extension agencies, the district agriculturist and agricultural representative and—cross your fingers—the pest controller.—J. Edward Lambert, Edmonton, Alta.

Keeping Leafy Vegetables

SOME work done recently at the University of California appears to indicate that if the temperature at which harvested vegetables are stored is known, the total storage life of the vegetables can be predicted with reasonable accuracy.

Work done at the California Agricultural Experiment Station at Davis seems to emphasize the value of rapid cooling and good refrigeration for all leafy vegetables, and the fact that such refrigeration should be continuous, from harvest to the consumer.

It is reported that highly perishable products such as spinach and broccoli are usable for as long as 60 days, if held at near freezing temperatures. At 68 degrees, these products will decay beyond use, in two or three days.

Potatoes, on the other hand, keep better in a warmer temperature.

Know Your Shrubs

by DR. R. J. HILTON,
University of Alberta

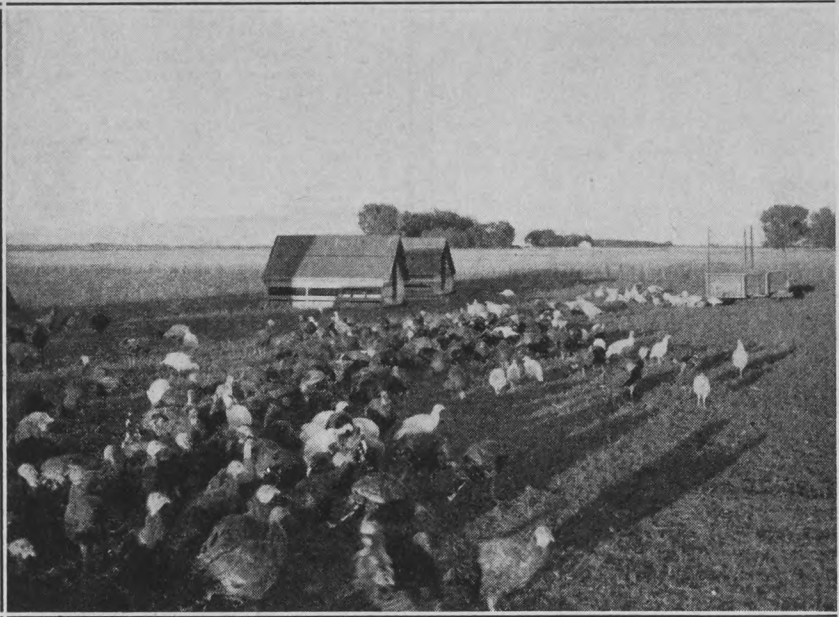
The Rocky Mountain Juniper

THIS western native evergreen is also known as Western Red Cedar and Colorado Juniper, also as "Scop" Juniper, this last from the Latin designation of *Juniperus scopulorum*. After a brief history of trial in prairie gardens, during which its hardiness at first seemed doubtful, the attractive blue-green shrub now is accepted as a fairly hardy and important plant for foundation planting near buildings, or for specimen use in protected rockeries or other suitable location.

Like most junipers, the Rocky Mountain juniper bears berries instead of cones, but with this species two years are required for their maturity. Plants are mostly grown from seed, though some are reproduced by means of specially handled cuttings—a specialist procedure that requires patience and equipment for careful regulation of light, moisture and temperature.

This juniper has fine-texture foliage, often very prickly when young, and it forms a fairly upright, broadly conical and showy plant to a height of eight or nine feet under most cultivated conditions. In its native habitat in the mountains of southern Alberta and Montana, it may assume a variety of forms and often becomes tree-like, with a height of 15 feet or more. While perhaps not quite so hardy as the Mugho Pine, the Rocky Mountain Juniper nevertheless is so attractive and different that it is often paired with the former, to form a basic building foundation that is evergreen and distinctive.

POULTRY



[Guide Photo]
Some of the 400 turkeys raised for the Christmas market by Fred Tifford, Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.

Closed Flock Breeding

BREEDING of Barred Rocks has been carried on at the Experimental Station, Harrow, Ontario, for 20 years. New blood was occasionally used during the first ten years and none during the second, with the result that observations during the two decades can be profitably compared.

There was a gradual trend toward uniformity in annual egg yields in the closed flock. During the early years, when other stock was brought in, average egg yields varied by as much as 50 eggs per bird from one year to another; the greatest range in production from 1941 to 1950—the second decade—was 24 eggs, and the lowest yield during that period was in 1941.

By 1946, average egg production had risen to the 246 mark; this was followed by a slow increase, that brought production to an average of 253 in 1950. These are survivor averages.

Closed flock conditions also reduced extremes in mortality figures. The rate was high in 1941—23 per cent—but it settled down to an average of seven per cent over the following nine years.

Emphasis was placed on family performance, rather than individual excellence, in making selections. In mating it was attempted to hold distance of relationship between individuals. Males and pullet families which had proved worthy were retained as long as they continued to be fit breeders. The continual breeding of the best birds involved a moderate degree of inbreeding. This apparently had an equalizing effect on the progeny of the various sires, which was reflected in the general averages.

The experimental work is being continued at Harrow in an effort to determine how long a closed flock system can be carried on, and in order to determine what effect could be anticipated when such stock is used on other flocks.

Infectious Sinusitis

INFECTIOUS sinusitis, also known as roup or swell-head, first shows up in the turkey flock as a clear discharge from the nostrils and a frothing of the eye secretions. The sinuses may become so full as to interfere with the

sight of the birds. The death rate is not high, and most of the deaths result from starvation or pneumonia. The condition of the infected birds is lowered, and because poorer weights and grades are achieved, losses may be heavy, even if casualties are light.

Balanced feeding and protection of the flock from windstorms, snowstorms, excessive chilling, overheating or overcrowding will help to prevent infection. Adequate vitamin A intake also reduces infection. This vitamin can be given in green grass or alfalfa hay, commercial growing or fattening mashers, or cod liver oil.

If a flock is infected, the sick birds should be isolated, according to Dr. C. H. Bigland, animal pathologist in poultry diseases, Alberta Department of Agriculture. Even after they are fully recovered they should still be isolated.

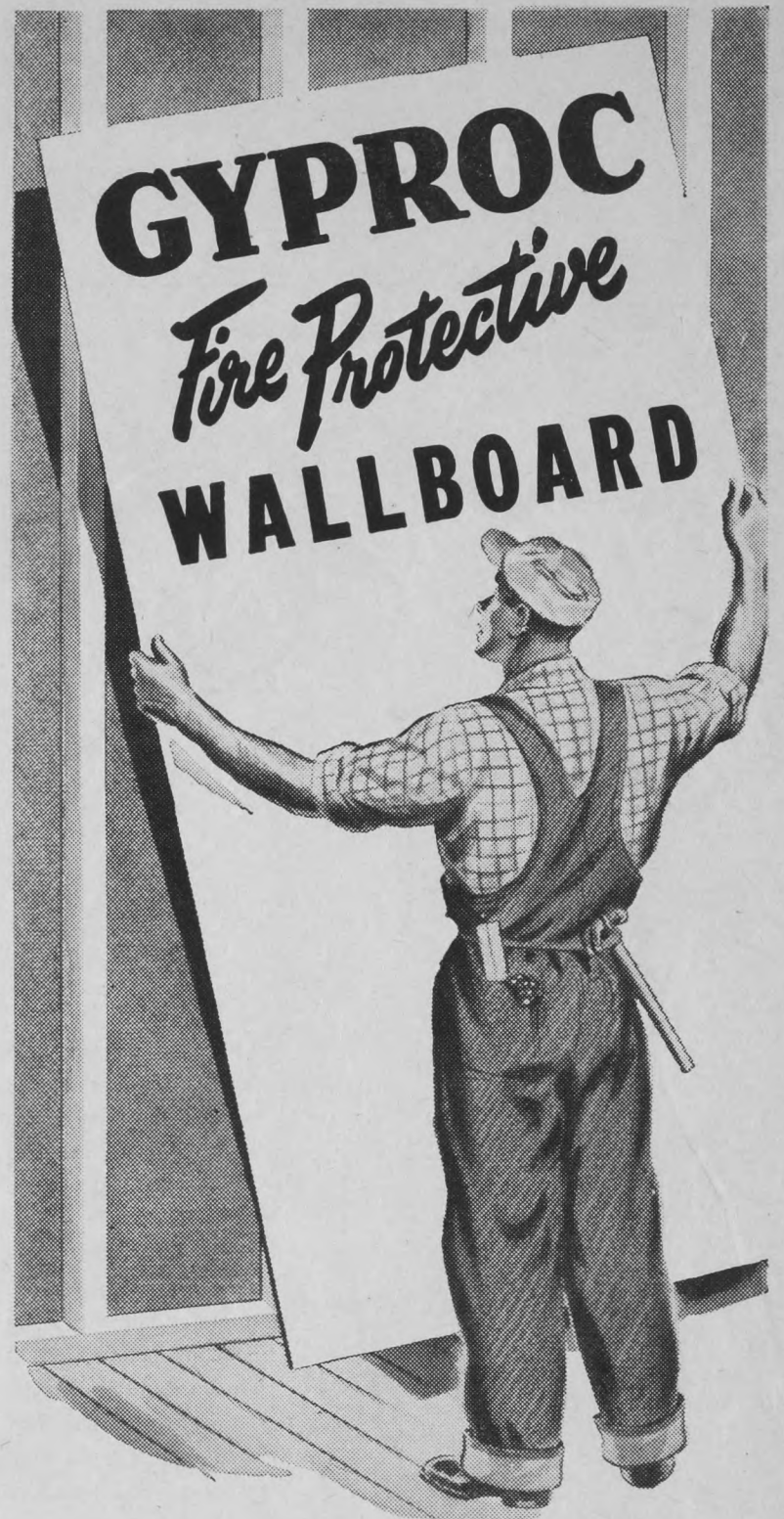
Excellent results in the treatment of sick birds have been obtained with the use of a new antibiotic, obtainable from local veterinarians. This material is injected into the sinuses. In the past, injections of 15 per cent argyrol have been used, but with this treatment all the fluids must be withdrawn from the sinuses and two cubic centimeters of 15 per cent argyrol solution injected. Two or three treatments are necessary with argyrol, whereas one treatment with the antibiotic has proven adequate.

If a breeding flock is infected, it is advisable to hatch all eggs in an incubator. All young poults should be isolated from the mature flock.

Hatcherymen Meet

IN view of the high price of red meats and the buoyant Canadian economy, the price for poultry and poultry products should continue at a high level. This view was expressed recently by W. Harold McLellan, president of the Canadian Federation of Hatchery Associations, speaking at the annual meeting in Saskatoon.

Poultry production increased in 1951. From January 1 to April 30, chick production increased 16.6 per cent across Canada, but the increase was only 10.4 per cent in the western provinces and 21 per cent in the central and Maritime provinces. Hatcherymen produced 63,300,000 chicks



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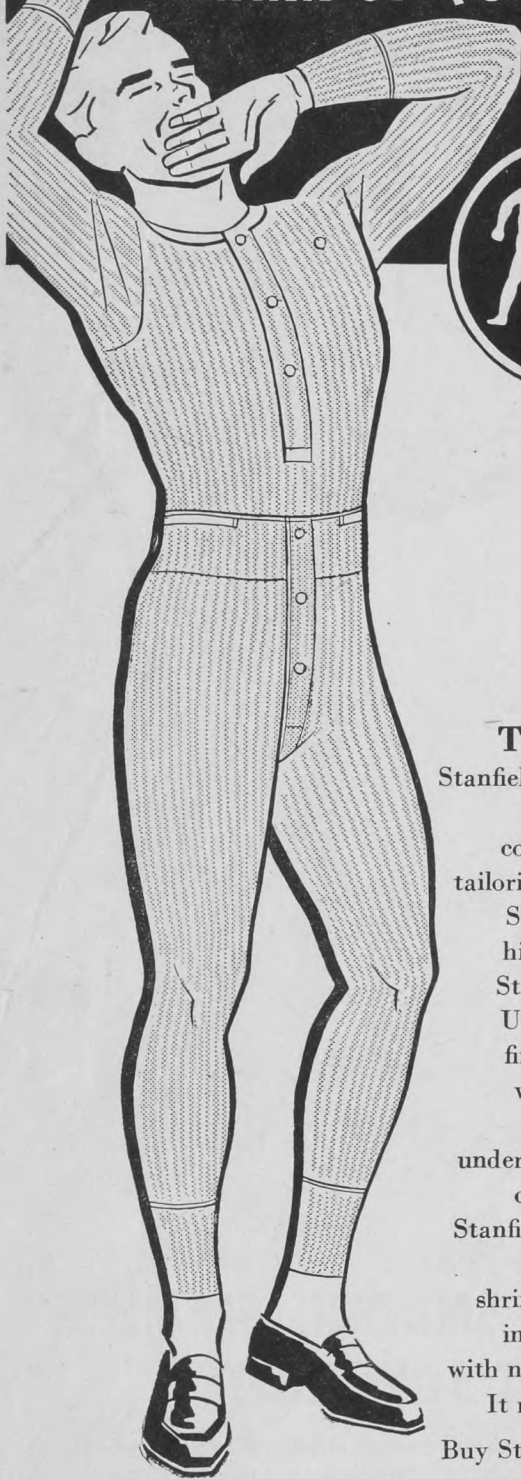


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in the first six months of 1951, compared with 50,400,000 in 1950 — an increase of 25.5 per cent.

In turkey poult, according to Mr. McLellan, the four western provinces registered a decrease of 4.7 per cent at the close of the 1951 hatching season. The Maritimes increased production 37 per cent, Quebec 36 per cent and Ontario 3.9 per cent. Canada showed an average increase of 6.97 per cent.

The convention passed a resolution urging the Federal Department of Agriculture to establish mass immunity to Newcastle disease through an extensive vaccination program, with the present slaughter policy to continue until mass immunity was achieved.

A new vaccine, ADRI, has been developed at the laboratory of the Health of Animals Division, Hull, Quebec. This vaccine holds out some hope of success in combating Newcastle disease, according to Dr. K. F. Wells, Federal Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Dr. Chas. A. Mitchell, chief of the Division of Animal Pathology, Animal Diseases Research Institute, Hull, Quebec, was quoted by Dr. Wells as believing that ADRI vaccine will immunize parent birds, but research and investigation have so far failed to reveal a vaccine that will give immunity to chicks under seven weeks of age. Some 30,000 birds have been vaccinated with ADRI in Ontario. Immunity will not last more than seven months.

The Health of Animals Division hopes to put into practice an all-out vaccination program to combat Newcastle disease throughout Canada.

Poultry and Meat Show

THE second annual Live and Dressed Poultry and Meat Show, open to producers across Canada, will be staged in the Winter Fair Buildings, Brandon, December 12, 13 and 14, according to D. C. Foster, Poultry Specialist, Manitoba Department of Agriculture.

In addition to live and dressed poultry classes there will be classes for live rabbits, lamb carcasses and eggs. There will be special classes for exhibits of live and dressed poultry by 4-H clubs.

Poultry producers are urged to exhibit their best turkeys, ducks, geese, chicks and capons. The show will be concluded by an auction of dressed birds, lamb carcasses and eggs. Top price for Canada was established at the Brandon show last year when the champion turkey sold for \$20 a pound.

Longer Laying Days

SHORTER days in the fall and winter give the laying flock an excuse to cut down on their work and reduce egg production. Many flock owners turn on lights to lengthen the day and hold the line on production.

Producers who use lights attempt to get them on when the daylight falls to less than 13 hours a day. There is no magic in lights, but Irving J. Mork, poultry agent of the N.D.A.C. Extension Service, points out that when combined with good breeding, good feeding and good management, they help maintain egg production at a high level.

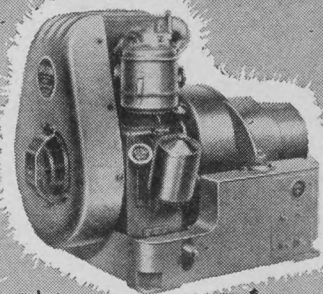
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The Lightness of Birds

A sparrow weighs less than an ordinary letter, and the mighty peregrine falcon weighs a bare two pounds



[Photo by Urechit.]

ALTHOUGH the expression "as light as a feather" is in common use and is readily appreciated, it is not generally realized just how light birds actually are.

A bird's bones are aerated internally, which makes them much lighter than the bones of land creatures. Feathers are miracles of strength, and the actual air content of a bird's body is high. Aerated bones, air sacs and other infiltrations of air in the body all keep the weight of even the largest birds amazingly low, so that flight and buoyancy in mid-air are always achieved without difficulty.

Just how much do birds weigh? The heaviest of flying birds are the pelicans and vultures, at over 25 pounds. But birds as large as swans drop in weight to about 15 pounds. Eagles come next heaviest, with an average weight of nine to ten pounds, and after it the larger seabirds like cormorants, five to seven pounds, and gannets, around seven pounds. Geese may tip the scales at anything from five to nine pounds.

But apart from these admittedly heavy birds, weights drop considerably. Most of the small perching-birds like finches and warblers weigh less than one ounce; some of them considerably less. A tree-creeper weighs about an eighth of an ounce, while a wren weighs three-sixteenths of an ounce. Hummingbirds often weigh under one-sixteenth of an ounce.

Nearly all the other recorded and confirmed weights of birds are surprising. Owls appear to be plump, rounded, well-fed creatures, yet a barn owl will weigh only eight to ten ounces, and a short-eared owl 11 to 13 ounces. Snowy owls may weigh up to two pounds, but some of the smaller kinds of owls weigh only six to seven ounces.

The weights of other small birds are astonishing, when one considers the energy and strength those tiny bodies contain, and the tireless flights and global journeys that are their natural lot. Think of the song power of a nightingale which will weigh three-eighths of an ounce in the hand. By useful comparison for this, an ordinary letter weighs one to two ounces! Black-birds at three to four ounces, American robins at little more, and sparrows at three-quarters to one ounce, all seem very light, but a willow warbler will depress the scale pan to the extent of barely half an ounce.

Crows are heavier, going up to 20 ounces, while buzzards and other large

hawks may weigh up to three pounds. With all the hawks and owls, the female birds are larger and heavier than their mates.

Seagulls may vary from around two pounds to only ten ounces, according to species; but it takes some believing that a heron, with a wing-span of five feet, weighs only three to four pounds, and seldom more. The Arctic tern will weigh about three-quarters of a pound, yet it can fly from the North Pole to the South, and frequently does. Even the mighty peregrine falcon weighs a bare two pounds or less, yet it will kill other birds and small animals weighing several times as much.

No wonder birds can fly so well!—Peter Northend.

Potato Clubs Increase

THIS year has seen an encouraging growth in potato clubs in Manitoba. There were only three clubs in the province last year; this year the figure is up to 35. There are now 447 active potato club members.

F. J. Weir, provincial horticulturist, Manitoba Department of Agriculture, has stated that through these clubs an attempt will be made to determine varieties of potatoes well adapted to different districts.

Club field days have been organized to demonstrate recommended practices in producing and marketing a high quality product. The program will be concluded with a provincial potato club competition and exhibition in Winnipeg.

North Dakota Boys Honored

CHARLES A. SHORTRIDGE, 20, of Langdon, and Wayne Dittmer, 19, of Velva, North Dakota, have been recommended to receive the highest degree awarded by the Future Farmers of America organization, that of American Farmer.

The awards will be made at the 24th national FFA convention to be held in Kansas City, Missouri. The degree is to be awarded to 295 farm boys from all parts of the United States. Winners will receive a gold key and a certificate from the FFA organization, and a check for \$50 from the FFA foundation.

Attainment of the degree is based on the Future Farmer's record in farming, leadership and scholarship. It is limited to members who have been out of school at least one year, and are showing evidence of becoming successfully established in farming.

"Big Set" Performance

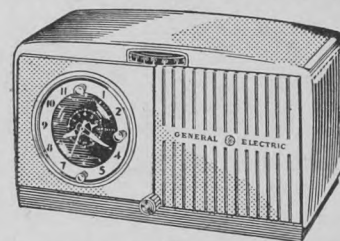


MODEL C850—5-tube battery set, in walnut plastic, designed for long battery life. Built-in antenna, plus connection for outside antenna.

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Listen to the Leslie Bell Singers, Howard Cable and the Orchestra, Charles Jordan, baritone—every Sunday evening at 8.30 EST, CBC Dominion network.

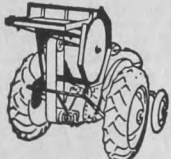
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Workshop in November

Getting ready for winter occupies many hours in the workshop

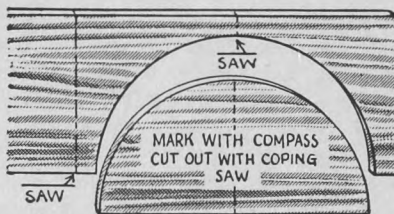
Moving Ice Cakes



This is a device I made for lifting ice cakes out of the water and onto a wagon. It is made from an old wagon wheel and axle, with a light pole chained to the other axle. One man can lift the cakes from the water with a pair of heavy tongs and place them on the wagon quite rapidly, and with a minimum of handling the wet ice.—L.J.H.

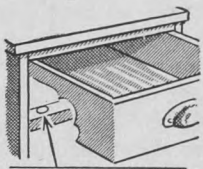
Wooden Braces for Shelves

Try this the next time you need identical braces for wall shelves. To cut these braces so they will be alike, take a six-inch board and cut off the end squarely. Make another square mark across the board six inches in from the end, and still another one at the 12-inch mark. Now, with a com-



pass, set its point close to the edge of the plank directly on the first square mark and scribe a semi-circle as shown in the sketch. Finally, cut along the two square lines across the board. Use a coping saw for cutting along the curved part of the braces, and when completed the braces will be identical. It is easy to make any number of identical braces in this way.—H.E.F.

Keep Drawer from Sticking



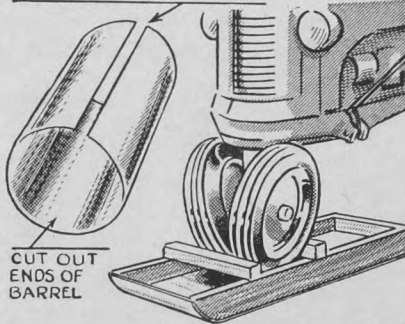
DRAWER RUNS EASILY ON THUMBTACKS

Ordinary wooden drawers often stick when being moved in and out. This is due to friction, which can be lessened considerably by putting in a thumb tack with a rounded head in the board underneath the drawer, using one on each side. This simple remedy will save a lot of irritation.—R.K.W.

Snow Packer

I made the device shown here to use with my row-crop tractor when packing the snow in the lane or around the feed yards. It ought to work with any narrow front tractor.

CUT UP SIDE AND OPEN OUT



CUT OUT ENDS OF BARREL

The snow will pack easily and the drive wheels do not cut down so much. By making the cleat back of the front wheel so that it is removable the tractor can be run in and backed out without jacking up the front end.—E.L.F.

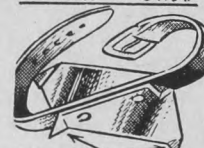
Gasoline Moisture Trouble

I prevent moisture trouble in my gasoline tank during the winter months by keeping the tank always full. This cuts down the amount of moisture-laden air in the tank, and also decreases rust and sediment collection there. This precaution is especially important if the car is kept in a heated garage.—I.W.D.

Ice Creeper

Here is a never-slip ice creeper made from two mower sections. They are very simple to make and on icy footing would prevent falls which might well be serious. It takes only a moment

RIVET TWO MOWER SECTIONS TO STRAP

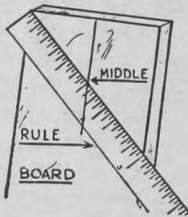


BEND DOWN POINTS

to put them on and off. Heat the entering or forward part of each mower section and bend it down about one-half inch. On one section heat both side points, then thin and sharpen them, and bend them down about one-fourth inch, then assemble the two so that the section with the three sharpened points is on the bottom and the other on top, using a heavy strap with a buckle, on top of both and riveted to the two mower sections with two heavy rivets.—I.W.D.

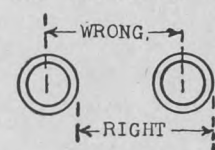
Finding Board Middle

Here is a diagram I use to find the middle of a board. Using this scale is quite accurate, and takes only a minute. For all practical purposes, it is as accurate as by using a compass or dividers.—I.W.D.



Measuring Center to Center

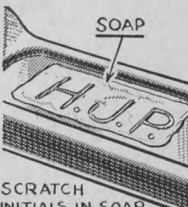
When measuring from center to center, be sure you do it the right way. If the distance is eight inches center



to center of two pipes, the right way to prove it is to measure from edge to edge, because accurate measurement is much easier and quicker this way. Even if the two pipes or pulleys are of different diameter, a little figuring first, will enable you to do it the right way, and get more accurate measurements.—W.F.S.

Initials on Your Tools

All you need, to engrave your name or initials on all your tools in an easy and quick manner, is a little bit of soap, and either acid from an old battery, or a little sulphuric acid purchased for the job. Apply a fairly thick coat of soap to the area to be engraved, then carve



SCRATCH INITIALS IN SOAP AND APPLY ACID

your name or initials into the soap so that the metal beneath will be free of soap. Drop the acid into the carved-out portions and allow to stand for a short time.—M.E.P.

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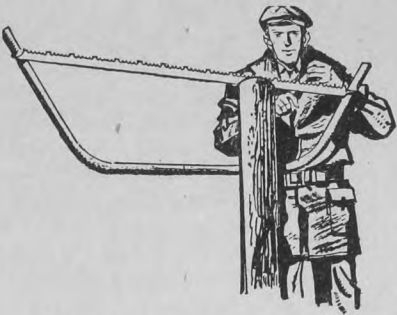
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Farm Labor

Continued from page 7

universities and schools of agriculture. As a student, I cannot remember any of my prescribed study being given to this subject. Relatively few people are naturally good leaders and people often learn by hard experience and training, how to be good employers. Most progressive industries today give special training to foremen and overseers, in the direction of workers, and find that it pays in avoiding labor troubles. An increasing number of companies employ a personnel manager with lengthy training in psychology and the humanities. If we know how to be a good employer, we know how to be a good worker; and the solution of this problem should not be left to chance by schools and colleges.

Even if we do not know all the facts, we can take some remedial action to correct the more obvious causes of the shortage of farm workers. Lacking all the facts, we must rely on certain assumptions. We can assume that there are good farm operators who never have labor worries, and also that there are poor farm employers who never can keep a man, but that the majority are between these two extremes. We can also assume that there are some excellent farm homes, and others which are not good enough for either farmer or worker. Let us assume, also, that farmers are no better or no worse as employers than those found in other occupations, and that farm living on the average is equal to the average attainable off the farm. On the basis of these assumptions, we can consider certain remedies.

The first has to do with the fact that the term, "hired man," carries a social stigma. It is without dignity, human feeling, or real meaning. The skilled, reliable and well-mannered worker is given the same title as the slovenly, lazy and incompetent drifter employed on the same farm. Let us get a job title with more meaning and dignity for the good man, and call the other fellow whatever he deserves. Why not refer to a good man in charge of machinery on a mechanized farm as a "farm mechanic," or a man who successfully looks after livestock, a "herdsman"? Both will probably be proud of these more accurate and considerate titles. The sooner we abolish the term, "hired man," the sooner will workers come to regard the farm as a place where skill, competence, reliability and human dignity are associated with success.

In my work, and in earlier days as a farm worker, I have been embarrassed by discourtesy. Because a man is a farm worker is no reason why he should not be referred to as "Mr. ——" when he is introduced to a prospective employer, or to a stranger by his employer; or why he should not be introduced properly when a stranger is with the family. The feeling of being recognized, rather than of being ignored, gives a person pride.

The 40-hour week is being widely adopted in industry and commerce. The 60-hour week is becoming rare, and often means employment of short duration or a high labor turnover. Regular holidays with pay are common to many industries. Some workers are attracted from farms by fewer and more regular hours of work.

Anyone familiar with farming realizes that there are limitations to

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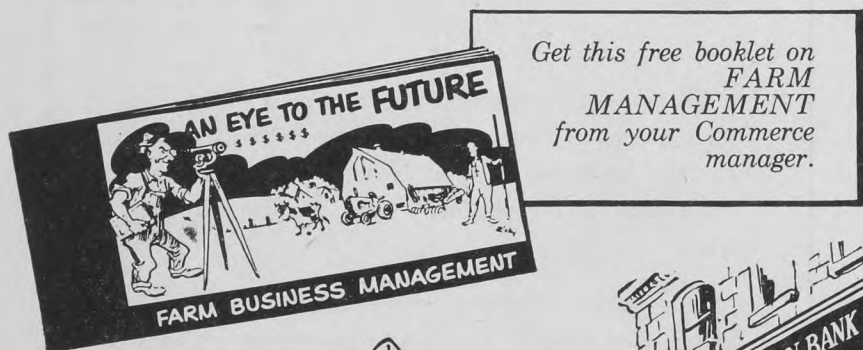
CANADIAN NATIONAL



An Eye to the Future

Long term planning helps you to raise more than the average for your area. This planning for the future should especially be applied to the five basic factors of farming. They are: Land, Livestock, Labour, Capital and Size of Farm or Farm Business. Every farm is different and has its individual problems. So it's up to you to make each factor work hard for you.

Many farmers have found it helpful to talk with their Commerce manager. He represents a bank that has for many years taken a keen interest in promoting better farming and in looking after Canadian farmers' banking needs. Why not pay him a visit?



The Canadian Bank of Commerce

"The Commerce"

the reduction and regularity of working hours. Crops must be planted and harvested at the right times. Rush periods are unavoidable, but this disparity in hours of work between the farm and alternative occupations, must be faced and some solution found. The more efficient management and operating methods used on many successful farms now working shorter hours, could be adopted by others.

Drudgery could be taken out of many farming jobs by better planning, or a modest expenditure. I can remember pulling water from a 30-foot well with rope and bucket for several weary hours each day, to water horses and cattle. This time, spent in more productive labor, would have returned means to buy a pump and stationary engine.

In general, neither workmen's compensation nor unemployment insurance is applicable to farm workers. The added security available to workers in occupations covered by these benefits is looked upon jealously by many farm workers.

Farmers' sons look forward to home and family. If a self-contained home is not available on the farm, there is a natural urge to look elsewhere, and this usually means in towns or cities. The hired worker also wants to marry. Is it not worth a fairly substantial expenditure to keep a good worker who knows his job thoroughly? When he is ready to marry, he will probably leave, unless there is a separate house.

Workers want security of employment and income. Many men and women accept relatively low salaries and mediocre and tedious jobs, because these jobs are permanent and return a steady, if meagre, income. Many more people would accept employment on farms if they were not fearful of being laid off in the fall, and facing a winter of unemployment. Farmers, as a group, strongly support an economy of full employment. But full employment means that there will be no labor surpluses of consequence at any time. It also implies continuous employment of farm workers. For many years, farmers have commonly engaged extra workers in the spring, let one or more go between seeding and haying, taken on men for haying and grain harvest, and then dismissed all or most of the help at freeze-up. This practice is based on the belief

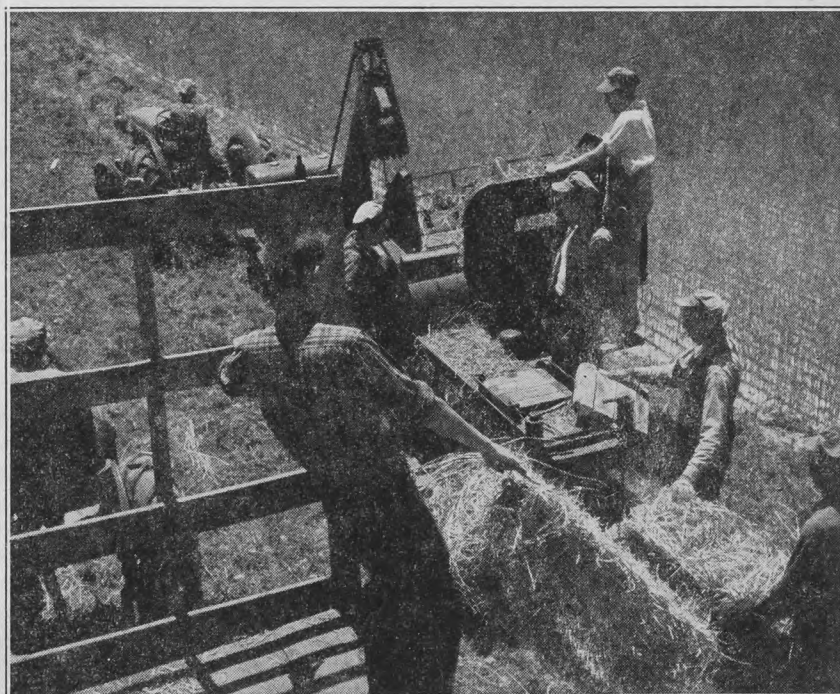
that there is always a surplus labor pool, which may be drawn on at any time. Furthermore, farmers want to draw men from the pool who have farm experience, and as farms become more and more mechanized, an increasing degree of skill is required. It is now becoming increasingly clear that as long as farmers rely on picking up seasonal and casual workers, they will have to hire whatever is available—often what other employers do not want. A way out is to put farm production on a year-round basis to the fullest extent practicable. This, of course, means greater diversification of production in order to spread labor and income more evenly over the year.

In few other occupations is there the same close contact between employer and employee. They sit at the same table and usually live under the same roof. They often work as a team. The worker becomes part of the family, and he must adapt his ways to theirs. A clean, comfortable room to himself will be appreciated, and he will be more ready for a hard day's work. As a rule, farm meals have no equal, but there are farms where workers get rough and sparse picking. Good food, a comfortable bed and room, and a word of encouragement, will go a long way toward keeping a worker contented.

Average farm wages, as well as security of employment, will have to increase if the farm is to become more competitive with alternative employment. This is particularly true for seasonal workers. We must recognize that present wages are not holding men on farms, or attracting qualified men to farms in the numbers required.

HOW can this be done? One way is to consolidate small, uneconomical farms into larger units, so that men and machines can be employed to greater capacity on productive labor. Many expensive tractors, combines, tillers, power mowers and other equipment are used only to a fraction of capacity, because some farms are too small.

Many farms not presently mechanized could conserve labor by some mechanization. Hours spent in hand milking or pumping often could be more productively used, if machines did the work. Field work is sometimes more economical when it is done by custom hiring, rather than by purchas-



[National Film Board Photo.]
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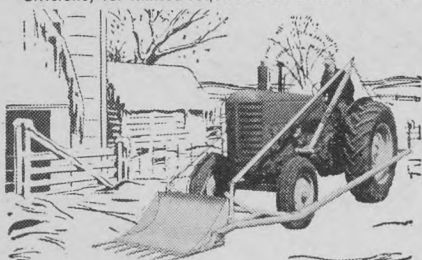
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ing power machines. It is a step toward mechanization.

These are the big things. What about many small wastes of labor time? The opening and shutting of crude gates several times a day, when a permanent ranch-style gate would avoid time lost. Many hours lost yearly in carrying feed for long distances by hand, could be saved by improved feeding arrangements, or a push cart. On almost any farm, labor could be saved by better planning for efficiency.

Consider production methods. We have learned a great deal about soil conservation, but many farmers still follow cultural methods which waste land and labor. More efficient use of hand, labor and capital are partial solutions to the labor shortage.

Farm work cannot be spread evenly throughout the year, but it can frequently become more even. Seasonal workers will be required, but fortunately rush periods do not occur in all parts of Canada at the same time. For many years, we have had organized movements of large groups of farm workers. The prairies and the Maritimes send men to Ontario for hay and grain harvest. Ontario and Quebec harvest workers are sent in organized movements to the prairies. Without such movements, there would be serious crop losses.

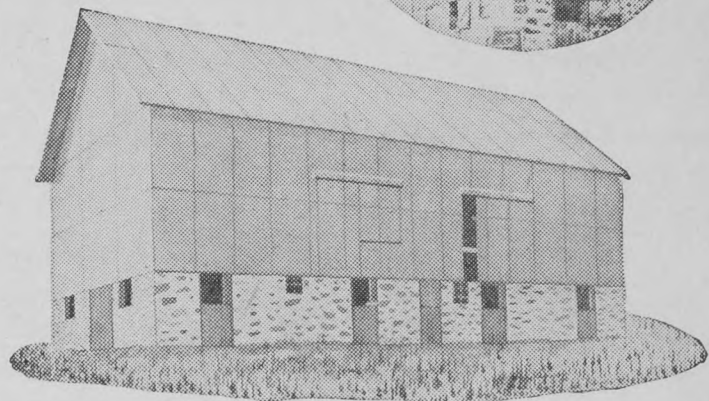
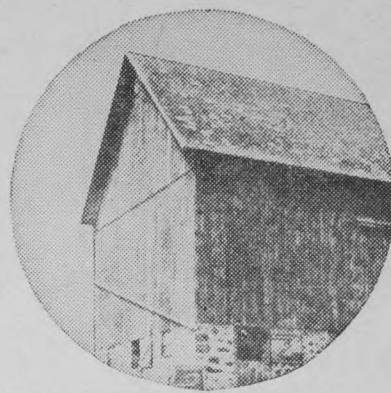
Farmers frequently complain that some transferred workers are not suitable, because they lack mechanical experience, cannot drive horses, or have language difficulty. With a little toleration for a short time, these deficiencies often are overcome. If the worker has been well treated, he will probably return the next year and be a really valuable man. Eastern Canada has a wealth of hard-working men of rural background, and the harvest usually is finished in time to release many of these men to help with the prairie harvest. Eastern Canada has a good potential manpower, if western farmers will give them a chance to learn western methods and acquire some knowledge of English in cases of language difficulties.

WHAT factors do farm workers and farmers themselves consider important for the "getting and keeping of good hired help?" An answer was sought by the New York State College of Agriculture, Cornell University, in 1947, on 58 farms in one county of New York State. This article may well conclude by reporting the answers received. Below are given, in order of importance, the answers of the farm workers themselves, and after each is a figure in parentheses giving the placing of farm employers:

1. Maximum of privileges (1); 2. Pay good wages (3); 3. Treat like human beings (2); 4. Reasonable and regular hours (4); 5. Mechanization (10); 6. Time off (8); 7. Careful supervision (6); 8. Don't drive or be overbearing (7); 9. Work with men (5); 10. Show interest in workers (9); 11. Good management (13); 12. Vacations (11); 13. Good working conditions (12); 14. Prompt payment (0); (0). Have written agreement (14).

NOTE: M. C. Crosbie grew up on a Saskatchewan farm, which he farmed jointly with his father for a time. He graduated from the University of Alberta, served overseas with the R.C.A.F., and is now Employment Specialist, Primary Industries, with the National Employment Service, Ottawa.

before and after



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Gil's Canyon

Continued from page 11

attract wild life and being safe from hunters, would soon become a bird and game sanctuary.

Gilbert was willing to donate the land and his time to make all this possible but it was a big undertaking for one man with limited means. The municipality was approached with the idea but did not respond with any great degree of enthusiasm. Gilbert decided to go it alone.

FIRST he must have a house for himself in harmony with the plans for the park. He did have a house on the plain above the ravine alongside

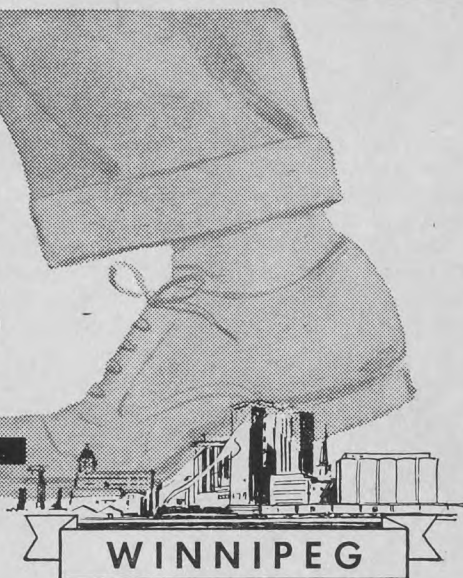
the wheat fields, but this was just an ordinary house and not in keeping with what was to follow.

The average person would no doubt have had no other idea than a log cabin under these conditions, but not Gil. He decided to build his cabin in the banks of the ravine. With pick, shovel and wheelbarrow he dug out a space within the "Canyon Walls" and therein built his cottage. The front faces the valley of the canyon and is built like any other cottage but the canyon itself forms the walls for the rear and one end while a portion of the roof remains a part of the canyon. The whole is supported by stout timbers and the interior lined with woodwork.

The interior consists of three rooms—quite spacious for a bachelor. All rooms are papered over the woodwork. The kitchen displays a novel idea in decorating—labels from Campbell's soups form half the border while labels from Carnation Milk form the other half. The idea is quite effective and at first glance the visitor fails to notice what the border consists of other than it is something attractive and bright. In the living room, Gil chose pages from an illustrated magazine with attractive pictures and ads to cover the walls.

The cottage is so cosy and warm he has need for only one stove, the kitchen range. Even during the coldest days in winter it is very comfort-

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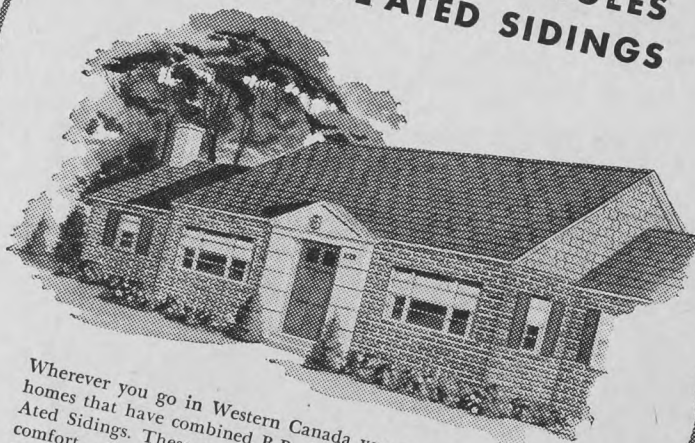
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able. A brick chimney was dispensed with, the stove pipe goes out the kitchen window. Gil refers to it as his "Do-Dads" chimney, from an old comic strip in The Guide. His "fridge" is dug out of the bank also and is located in the kitchen. A cut in the canyon side of the kitchen wall was made and the "cooler" dug out, a door in the wall by the kitchen table makes it handy and one doesn't have to get up from the table to get food out of this cooler.

His root cellar is also dug out of the bank of the canyon and is accessible from the living room. Here again you go through the rear wall into the root cellar, where vegetables keep perfectly the year round with no danger of overheating or freezing. Gil has affectionately named his cottage "The Gopher Hole," and all in all it is a work of art. Certainly no modern home is more immaculately kept.

In the spring of 1950, having completed his dwelling to his satisfaction, Gil set to in earnest to clear the underbrush and turn the sides of the ravine into a park-like area with little paths winding here and there. He chose the site for his dam and made a start on clearing stumps and trees from what would be the lake bed. He was temporarily at a loss as to where and how to build a dam and sought assistance from the provincial government. An engineer looked it over and after due deliberations informed Gil that a dam was impossible. It could not be built with any assurance of holding.

Not so easily discouraged, Gil chose his own site and set about the task himself. A few weeks later, in the month of May, whilst returning up the canyon from a day's work on the dam he noticed freshly cut poplar limbs lying along the creek bank. Deeply curious he discovered only one possible answer—beaver had moved in.

Within the next few days his suspicions were verified with the building of a small dam across the creek. True, the dam wasn't in the location he had chosen, but then, who was he to argue with experts? The beavers took possession of the creek and Gil scrapped his own engineering plans and concentrated on landscaping the sides of the ravine. By fall last year Gill had his own lake. From a three-foot creek the beavers had backed water up to a distance of 1,000 feet, forming a lake that length by 200 feet wide in places. The beavers had built a dam 100 feet in length, 20 feet at the base and nine feet high, the depth of the water in the lake. Today, October, 1951, a lake 1,800 feet in length has been established, the dam, still receiving nightly attention is being continually built up and the lake continues to expand.

Gil's only problem now is to remove all the stumps and trees from the lake. The beavers didn't give him any consideration in this regard. Gil has figured the creek feeds into the lake 4,000 to 5,000 barrels of water per day, so he feels his lake is there permanently. The beavers appear

solidly behind Gil and his scheme and just as determined to make this a permanent project; to back up their faith in the scheme they have brought in two recruits in the form of "kits" (beaver children to you).

Last summer before the beavers developed the lake to such an extent, Gil installed a water wheel which he planned should run a generator to develop light for the "Gopher Hole." However, with the ever rising water this proved none too successful. If and when the beaver decide they have enough water Gil will again install the wheel and electrify his cabin.

LAST winter when freeze-up came Gil kept the lake clear of snow and the district had the first real insight into Gil's coming community playground—a skating rink of crystal-clear ice lit by bonfires off shore.

Already news of Gil's work is spreading and an evening seldom goes by that several people—farmers and townsfolk, are not down at the lake either for wiener roasts or just to watch the beavers at work in the early evening. Sunday sees a crowd of 100 or more there, many staying till late in the evening as if loath to leave such a haven of rest.

Visitors from Saskatoon and North Battleford are regular now and this summer he has had visitors from Vancouver, Toronto and Chicago. Everybody is welcome, there is nothing to buy and no service to pay for. You bring your own food, Gil supplies a stove outside if you wish to cook and all the split wood you can use is within arms length of the stove. Nearly every week Gil gathers up large piles of dead willows from up the canyon and occasionally treats the visitors to a roaring bonfire in the evening. Gil's scheme is entirely non-money-making—there is no charge for anything and no contributions are solicited or desired.

With the prospects of a good wheat crop coming up on the plains above the canyon, Gil is busy laying plans for improvements for next year. He plans first to get the stumps cleared out of the lake and at least a paddling pool established for the wee ones. Gil's dreams are large and noble, he prays that not only will the community get enjoyment from his canyon but also that more wild creatures will gradually find it a safe refuge.

So far, as if in answer, mink, muskrat and beaver have established themselves in the lake and creek and raised their first young ones. Ducks brought their young to the sheltered oasis this spring and every day it seems new feathered creatures are finding their way to the safety of Gil's Canyon.

The road to Gil's Canyon boasts no pavement, no sign posts, and little or no gravel, but good news travels fast alike to man or creature—any farmer's boy in the district or resident of a surrounding town can give you explicit instructions on finding your way to this oasis in the wheat fields—Gil's Canyon, Unlimited.



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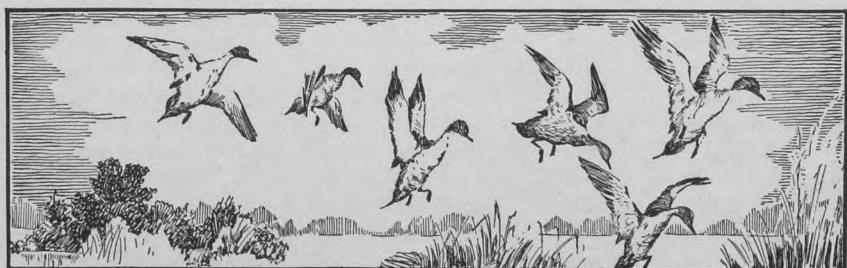
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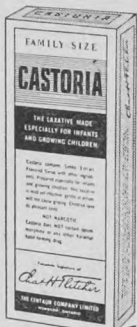
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MONTHLY

Seventy-Five Years of Export Trade

This year marks the seventy-fifth anniversary of western Canadian wheat export trade. On October 21, 1876, a small stern-wheeler with 857 bushels of Red Fife wheat aboard, pushed off from a spot on the Red River, somewhere in the vicinity of what is now Lombard Street in the City of Winnipeg, bound for Toronto. This was all the wheat that could be scraped together to fill a potential order of 5,000 bushels arising from the need for fresh, vigorous seed on Ontario's farms. Although a few bags of wheat had previously been shipped to Minneapolis, this was the first shipment of any appreciable size from the West. This was one of the most momentous occasions in the country's history, the shipment itself being highly significant because it started a chain of events which lead to the establishment of a great industry and the building of a nation.

Samples of the shipment eventually reached the hands of eastern millers after arriving in Toronto by a somewhat circuitous journey, by the Red River and American railroads. The color and quality of the wheat greatly impressed the millers and its fame spread quickly. The knowledge that the world's best wheat could be produced in an area at one time considered unfit for agricultural use was largely responsible for the encouragement of settlement. More important, however, is that it made settlement possible, thereby creating an entirely new phase in the Canadian economy. Although it was many years before shipments reached anything like their present volume, a reputation for quality was then established, leading eventually to a world-wide demand. Over the years, in spite of the many difficulties, this reputation has been maintained through the combined efforts of producers, scientists, and grain standards experts.

Current Crop Problems

At the time of writing, western Canada lies prematurely blanketed in snow, with little sign of relief in the immediate future. Coming at this time, it adds immeasurably to the already difficult situation of a harvest delayed at least two months by intermittent rains and snow. A problem inevitable under these conditions is that of the grading of tough and damp grain, along with associated injuries caused by sprouting, bleaching and mildew. In some localities lodging of the standing grain has developed in serious proportions. With some 40 per cent of the grain still to be harvested in Alberta and Saskatchewan, only unusually fine weather for a prolonged period of time will enable farmers to get the crop into the bins before winter.

Some revision will now no doubt be required in the Federal Bureau of Statistics original wheat crop estimate of 579 million bushels, although given favorable weather conditions, this revision may not be as great as first thought. Just what deterioration will take place in grades is difficult to say. Certainly the percentage of No. 1 Northern will be well below the ten-year average of 28 per cent of total

deliveries, but the percentage falling into other milling grades, particularly No. 3 and No. 4 Northern is likely to be very considerable.

The real tragedy of the situation lies in the fact that Canada, with potentially the largest crop in her history, may be unable to get enough of it into marketing position to meet the expected keen world demand. While the estimated world production is placed at 6.5 billion bushels—the highest on record—much of the increase over last year's 6.32 billion bushels is accounted for by countries behind the Iron Curtain. A considerable reduction in total production is reported from the traditionally wheat deficient areas of western Europe, and even though they might wish to obtain a considerable volume from the Argentine and Australia, these countries are not likely to have a very large exportable surplus. The decrease in the expected yield in the Argentine and a considerable acreage reduction in Australia have lowered their combined production from last year's figures. Accordingly, the demand for North American supplies may be expected to be very strong, with Canada falling heir to a fair portion of the market. In confirmation of this line of reasoning, the Canadian Wheat Board recently reported an excellent demand for Canadian milling wheat, and it has apparently made heavy delivery commitments for the fall months and throughout the current crop year. Marketing difficulties arising out of the lateness of the season and the condition of the crop will undoubtedly complicate the execution of the Board's sales policy.

The Board has been justifiably anxious to maintain sufficient wheat stocks in store at Lakehead and West Coast ports to meet current commitments and has therefore directed its efforts to this end. With stocks of low grade wheat in eastern position more than sufficient to meet demands for wheat of feed grades, it instructed the elevator companies to give preference to the shipment of milling grades while requesting the Transport Controller to restrict the movement of feed grades, to eastern positions, thereby leaving transportation facilities clear for the movement of high grade wheat.

This action was followed in mid-October by a Wheat Board announcement that with the approval of the Transport Controller the railways had been requested to concentrate on the movement of the greatest quantity of milling grades to ports in the shortest possible period of time. This implies that the railroads will haul from points nearest to ports in order to obtain the quickest turn-over in box cars and, while producers most distant from port may feel they are being neglected to some extent, especially with the closing of Great Lakes shipping only a few weeks away, a fair argument can be advanced in favor of this policy.

The movement of adequate supplies of wheat of milling grades to seaboard is, however, only one of a number of major problems. Two consecutive late harvests, along with the necessity of handling very considerable quantities of non-millable and tough grades, have

COMMENTARY

placed a severe strain on country storage facilities. The numerous grades require separate bins, many of which may be only partially filled. With current deliveries showing a day to day variation of from 40 per cent to 70 per cent in the toughs and damps, drying facilities at the terminals are again likely to be severely tried.

With considerable stocks of the non-millable grades of wheat occupying storage space urgently required for this year's crop, attention will undoubtedly be drawn to the fundamentals of the Board's sales policies. It will be maintained in some circles that offerings of feed grades at substantially lower prices would have cleared the market and have left space available for the current crop. While the Board could have succumbed to this temptation, a move of this kind would have considerably reduced the returns to farmers with incomes already drastically low, and would have left room for criticism from farm sources. The Board apparently feels that its present price policy is proving satisfactory in the face of a possibly increased demand for wheat of feed quality in both the domestic and export markets.

Coarse Grains Legislation

On August 1, 1949, the Canadian Wheat Board, under instructions from the Dominion Government, undertook the marketing of all oats and barley delivered through commercial channels in the three prairie provinces. The legislation authorizing this action permitted feed grain transactions between farmers. The federal government, as will be remembered, would not put the legislation into force until complementary legislation was passed by the governments of all three prairie provinces. This was eventually done and coarse grains marketing came under the control of the Wheat Board.

After two years of operation, attention is again being drawn to the field of coarse grains marketing. In Alberta there have been a considerable number of infractions of the law by farmers who delivered direct to some concerns operating feed-mills. In order to prevent this, an Act was passed in the last session of the Alberta legislature which made the regulations more strict and provided for more effective administration. On September 15 of this year, the Alberta Minister of Agriculture announced that the new legislation had been thrown out on the grounds that there was some doubt as to its validity. The explanation was that flour, feed and seed cleaning mills come under federal jurisdiction and the province therefore cannot restrict commercial activities in this field.

In Manitoba, the government has set the date of the polling for the previously announced coarse grains marketing referendum for November 24.

The ballot states simply, "Do you wish to continue to sell your oats and barley as at present? 'Yes' or 'No'." Ballots are to be marked with an X.

Four categories of Canadian citizens, resident in Manitoba, and of the full age of 21, are entitled to vote:

(1) An actual producer engaged in the production of grain on not less than five acres of cultivated land in

1951, other than an employee or agent of another person.

(2) Any person falling in the above category who produced grain in 1949 or 1950 but who because he decided to summerfallow his land was not an actual producer in 1951.

(3) Any person entitled to grain grown on not less than five acres of land by an actual producer in 1951.

(4) Under certain qualifying conditions the name of a widow or widower.

Registration offices are being opened in all 45 provincial electoral divisions with eight to 12 registration offices in each rural constituency. Only one registration office will be established in each of the electoral divisions of Assiniboia, Brandon City, Kildonan-Transcona, Portage la Prairie, and the three divisions of Winnipeg.

Should the answer to the Manitoba referendum be "No," what then happens to the handling of coarse grains in the other two provinces? It was at one time intimated from Ottawa, that if one province repealed its enabling legislation, the Act would cease to be operative in the others.

In Alberta, President Roy Marler of the Alberta Federation of Agriculture has called upon both the provincial and federal governments to co-operate in solving the problem arising out of the present situation. The suggestion is that counsel of both governments meet to clarify co-operatively their respective constitutional rights with regard to enforcement and administration of coarse grains legislation.

The International Wheat Agreement

The International Wheat Agreement now in its third year of operation, has something over a year to run before reaching its expiry date on July 31, 1953. Its operations will shortly be due for close scrutiny by farmers and their organizations, as well as by the governments of importing and exporting countries.

Article 22 of the Agreement requires the International Wheat Council to formulate its recommendations and make them known to both importing and exporting countries on or before July 31, 1952. The Canadian Government, with a representative on the Council, will undoubtedly be interested in the probable effect of such recommendations on wheat marketing policy in this country. It is reasonable to expect, therefore, that the wheat policy will almost certainly be brought under review during the current session of the Federal Parliament.

The Minister of Trade and Commerce recently announced that Canada will continue to charge an additional six cents carrying charge on wheat sold under the International Wheat Agreement; Australia and the United States also continue to make this additional charge. The right of the exporting countries to levy these carrying charges under the terms of the Agreement has been questioned by a number of importing countries, including the United Kingdom. Protest has been lodged with the International Wheat Council and a ruling is expected to be given at the next meeting of the Council toward the end of October.

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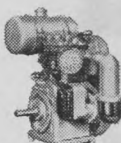
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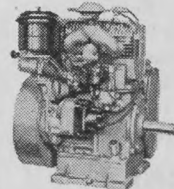
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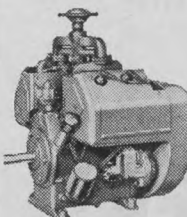
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Catamount Gold

Continued from page 9

from a stripped vein. Lawton was hurrying, although almost staggering under his load, to get to Uncle Jack's where several well-informed mining men made headquarters. Among them were two newly arrived prospectors whose names were widely known in the Catamount country, Joe Winton, an experienced woodsman as well as a former silver miner in Cobalt, and Billy Hannigan, his partner, the discoverer of a rich vein of gold near Catamount. They were here, seeking new properties, having sold out their other claims to the big companies which were sprawling about the region.

MAREAN waited until Jim Lawton had rounded a crook in the trail, then he started to follow him, keeping at a safe distance, not to reveal his presence to Lawton. He did not need to take much care, however, for Jim's whole mind and body were concentrated on getting to the roadhouse with his precious load. He did not even stop to remove his snowshoes when he got to the door. He lifted the latch and almost fell in, swinging his packsack off his shoulders to the floor and going down on his knees beside it, crying out, hoarsely:

"Boys, I've struck it! I've struck it rich at last. Look at this jewelry store

stuff! Look at it! I'm not Luckless Lawton, now. I'm Lucky Lawton."

He shucked off his mittens, which were attached to the sleeves of his coat by leather thongs, the coat, a tough canvas garment, entirely fur-lined. It had a collar that, when turned up, came almost to the top of his head, with a fur-lined strap that but-



"Pee-ew! Sammy's been eating garlic again!"

toned across his chin. He had prepared for very cold weather and he had needed to, for it was near 40 below this night, and would drop lower. He had heard a pack of hungry wolves howling as they chased through the woods after some fleeing prey, probably a young deer or caribou. The sudden continued cold had brought hunger to all the animals in the forest.

As Jim managed to unstrap his packsack and spill the ore out on the floor, a wolfish face peered through a window near the door, the face of Marean, and when he caught sight of the heap on the floor, there was murder in his heart. He felt the gun that he had concealed in his pocket, a short-nosed automatic. Unlike most of the miners he kept it hidden, rather than displayed in a holster at his belt. But he shook his head.

"Wouldn't dare do it," he muttered. "Got to think of some other way. Damn his hide! How—?"

He cut himself short as a faint-long-drawn screech came to his ears, from out in the woods, a blood-curdling scream like that of a woman in mortal pain or terror.

It was the shrill, piercing cry of a catamount, a hunger cry, at once menacing and despairing. Marean knew that scream well, for he had hunted and trapped the varmints in the West. He had intended to take to trapping here if necessary, and had brought with him from civilization some steel traps and a certain bait preparation. He had a vial of this dope in his pocket now, but his traps were at Catamount camp. He knew a place where a baited set would almost certainly snare a catamount. But he was listening, now, to the voices inside, which filtered faintly but plainly to his ears through the single window.

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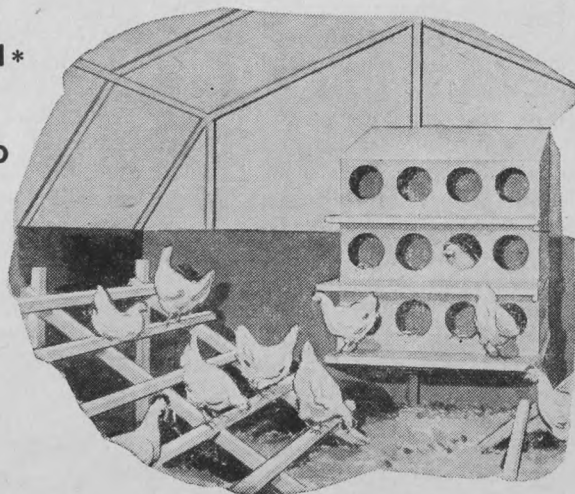
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GLF-169

Jim Lawton was holding up a hunk of ore in each gloved hand, and his eyes were as sparkling as the yellow streaks in the rock. Winton and Hannigan crouched over the heap and their eyes glowed, too, and Uncle Jack, somewhat sober, limped over to bend down and feast his faded eyes on the richness of the rock.

Lawton handed each man a piece of the ore, saying, "It's rotten with gold, boys. Simply rotten with gold."

He was so excited that he trembled as he watched the expert miners inspect the stuff, Winton taking out the ever-ready pocket microscope and holding the hunk close to his eye. They had to handle it gingerly for the rock was ice cold, with specks of frost shining like silver amid the gold.

"I'll say you've struck it, boy!" Winton declared at last, with a quick glance into Hannigan's eyes. "What d'you think, Bill?"

Hannigan nodded and licked his lips.

"Is there more of this kind of stuff?" he asked Lawton.

"I've staked around an outcrop half as big as this shebang and this is what I got out of the first blow with bang-juice," Jim replied. "I've staked my limit, three 40's?"

"You wouldn't want to say where?" inquired Winton, drawling his words and giving Jim a grin, as he handed back the piece of ore.



"Here comes that Farmer, 38. Would like to marry girl with tractor—please send picture of tractor."

Jim grinned back and got to his feet, turning down his collar, removing his gloves and then seeming to notice for the first time that he still wore snowshoes. Sheepishly he stooped to unstrap them.

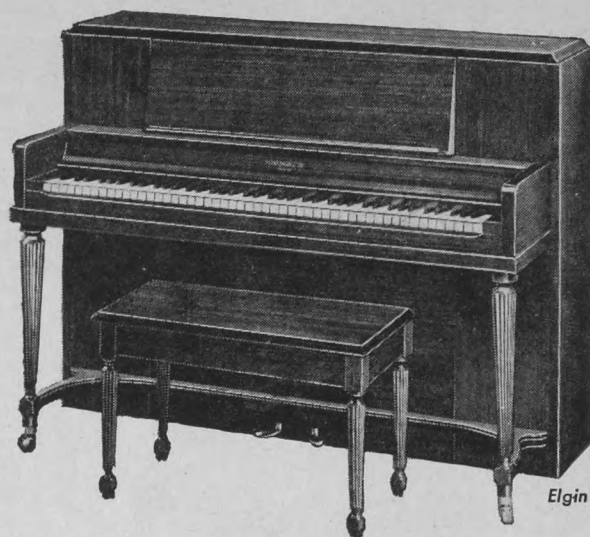
"Don't know but I'd let you fellows in on it," he said. "But there's one bum around here I wouldn't care to let in. Where is that fellow, Marean?"

He looked about the big, low-ceilinged room. Had he turned his eyes upon the window he might have glimpsed the ugly face, but it vanished and none of the four men saw it.

"Marean's gone down to Catamount," offered Uncle Jack. "Why, it's funny you didn't meet him on the trail! He only left about an hour ago."

JIM lifted his heavy sack up and emptied its remaining contents on a bench and spread out a display that kept all eyes glued to it. He warmed his cold hands at the oil-drum stove set in a bed of sand in the middle of the room.

"A bitter night out," observed Winton, trying to be casual. "The dogs have burrowed deep in the snow. It'll go lower. The mail-runner said he froze a toe comin' in this afternoon from Catamount."



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"Say!" exclaimed Jim. "Any mail for me, Uncle Jack?"

"Why yes, they's a letter here. Just come. It's from New York. Her 'tis."

Jim tried to be casual, too, but his heart was hammering hard and his fingers shook as he took the envelope, recognizing the familiar handwriting on it.

"I ought to tell you boys," he observed, "that Marean talked to me about putting across a dirty deal on someone up here. I wouldn't want to have that bum stake anywhere near me. He was fixing to have me go in cahoots with him to restake some claims when the privileges run out the last day of the—what date is it?" he broke off suddenly.

"The thirtieth, all day," replied Uncle Jack.

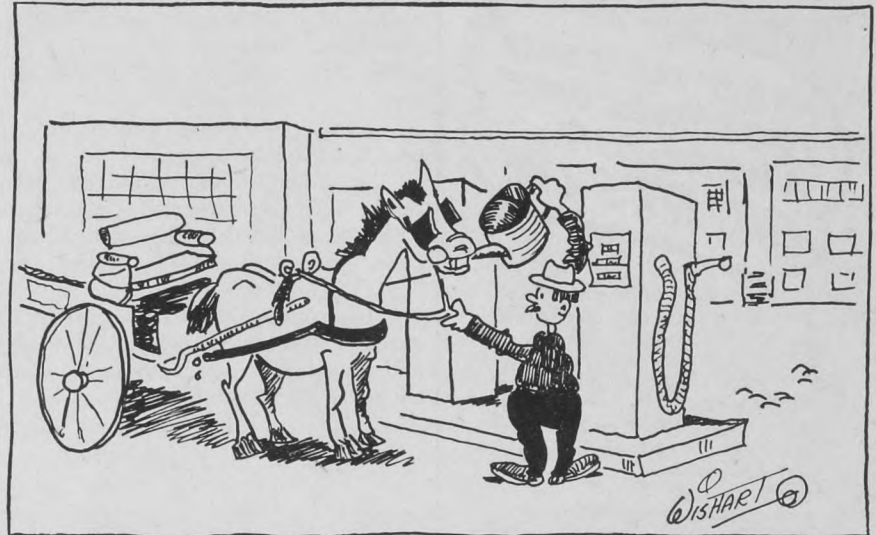
all that. Of course, you would, Jim, but I—

Jim burst out with a sudden exclamation.

"And this is the thirtieth, and I thought I was going to be Lucky Lawton; I've been riding my luck to a fall! I've only got till tomorrow night to finish my assessment work and get to Catamount and get a wire to New York. I've got to go back to my stakes and blaze my lines—tonight."

"We'd better go with you," suggested Hannigan. "There was a fellow hoofing in alone from steel last week, and they found him under a tree, dead, and three dead wolves. His gun jammed."

"I'll tell you what," said Jim. "Give me half an hour's start and then you can come and stake around me. It isn't



This is the first water Dobbin has had all day!

"Is that right? Well, it would be tonight at midnight Marean would be trying that trick if there's anybody up here who has staked something good and failed to do the assessment work on it."

"Nobody fool enough for that!" declared Uncle Jack quickly. "He was spoofin' you, Lawton, I reckon. Besides, he's gone to Catamount. No, they's nobody but has done all his work on his claims around here."

"Hum! Probably that's why he left," observed Lawton, with a sigh of relief. "If you boys will excuse me now. This letter—"

He became absorbed in the letter, and his mouth dropped open and his eyes widened as he read:

Dear Jim:

Your letter just came and I hasten to write and ask why you didn't answer my questions about whether you could meet the dead-line that Mr. Lemore set on his offer to back you for development of your discovery. He isn't throwing \$10,000 around loosely, you know. I'll repeat it, that he will send you a draft for \$10,000 as a first installment and when you send samples down to be assayed here if they prove up well, he'll back you to the limit. I can't understand why you said nothing about it when you wrote. You were answering my letter, all right, parts of it, but not the very important part. Mr. Lemore says his syndicate wants to be in on a good property up there and I assured him you were strictly honest and wouldn't offer anything that wasn't worth while. But he will withdraw the offer on the first of the month, because he's been offered another proposition. Hurry up and answer, please. It means a lot to me, of course, but be sure your property is safely recorded and

that I don't trust you fellows but I'm wondering about that Marean. I should have met him if he'd started for Catamount when Uncle Jack says he did."

He started to strap on his snowshoes.

"Give me just half an hour's start. Uncle Jack, you time 'em, will you? I spent so much time stripping up this ore that I didn't stop to blaze my lines. See? I'll have to do that before I record my claim. Have to get to Catamount tomorrow. I lost a letter, and this one I just got tells me I've only got till tomorrow to fix things for capital to develop my mine. You see?"

They nodded and began to get hold of their things. Winton went out and got their snowshoes to be sure the straps weren't frozen.

He failed to notice a shadow that slipped into the trees where the cut trail started at the edge of the clearing. He was looking up at the blazing aurora which was streaming across the sky.

"I don't believe you could find my stake unless you found where I went off the main trail," Jim said, when Winton came in. "Watch for it. It's just south of that split rock with the fir across the top."

"Oh, toward the creek, eh?" asked Hannigan. "Say you played a slick hand, Lawton."

"I was lucky—at last," chuckled Jim. Well, so long, now. Half an hour. Uncle Jack, will you lock that stuff up for me?"

"You bet. It'll be safe."

He went out and Uncle Jack took out a big gold watch and said it was half-past eight, exactly.

They turned to look again at the glittering gold ore and to fondle the rough, heavy pieces.

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"Lucky Lawton," muttered Winton. "I hope his luck holds. I'll make a bet this'll assay \$200 or more to the ton." "This? It's got \$5,000 in it, right here," declared Hannigan. "What time is it?" he asked nervously. "Twenty-five to nine," Uncle Jack answered, grinning.

A STOOPING figure in the bundling clothing that 40, below zero required zigzagged through the bush on long, upturned snowshoes, circling from the east toward the main trail to Catamount. He appeared to be blazing a trail. He paused now and then at a tree and drew something that he held in his mittened hand across the trunk, but so close to the level of the deep snow that it could not remain visible for long, for more snow would soon cover it.

Every now and then he cocked his head and listened. The forest was as silent as a tomb, save for the occasional exploding crack of a splitting tree trunk, burst by frost. But soon the man caught a distant sound and a grin came to his crafty, scarred face.

"He's follerin' the bait," he whispered to himself. "The old cat's caught the scent. You better hurry, Marean, or you'll get caught yerself."

Hastily he reached inside his coat and drew out a vial and uncorked it and thrust in a slender stick with a rag wrapped about its end. He gagged at the rotten odor from the vial.

"Whew! This dope is ripe, all right," he muttered. "But it sure is drawin' him."

The crazy, high-pitched screech of the catamount sounded again, coming nearer, a hungry, eager complaint. Marean daubed some more of the dope on a tree and hastened on. He came to the split rock with the spruce lying across it and daubed more of the stinking bait across its trunk and climbed up the rock into the dense boughs until he was directly above the trail, where he smeared the stuff thickly, and then hastily retreated. Pocketing the vial, he hastened on



"Why should I get married, I'm around old hens all day!"

along the main trail, his head bent peering to the right, until he saw where snowshoe tracks had been made, coming in from the west, from the direction of Catamount Creek. He passed on, but turned in and cut the fresh-made trail when he had got out of sight of the main trail. Swiftly he sped on, following this track. It was the one Jim Lawton had made, with his wide bear's-paw web sinking deep with his load. Marean ran lightly in his long webs, saving his breath now. Ten minutes later Jim Lawton came to the split rock pass, swinging along in a bent-kneed fox-trot, looking



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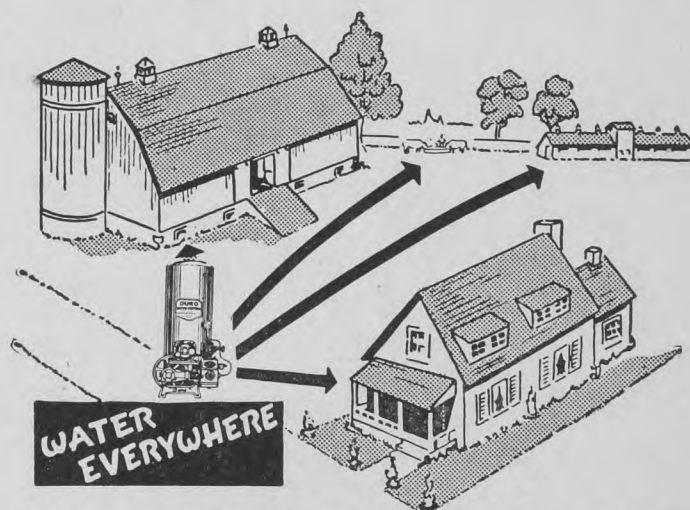
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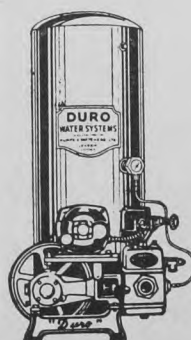
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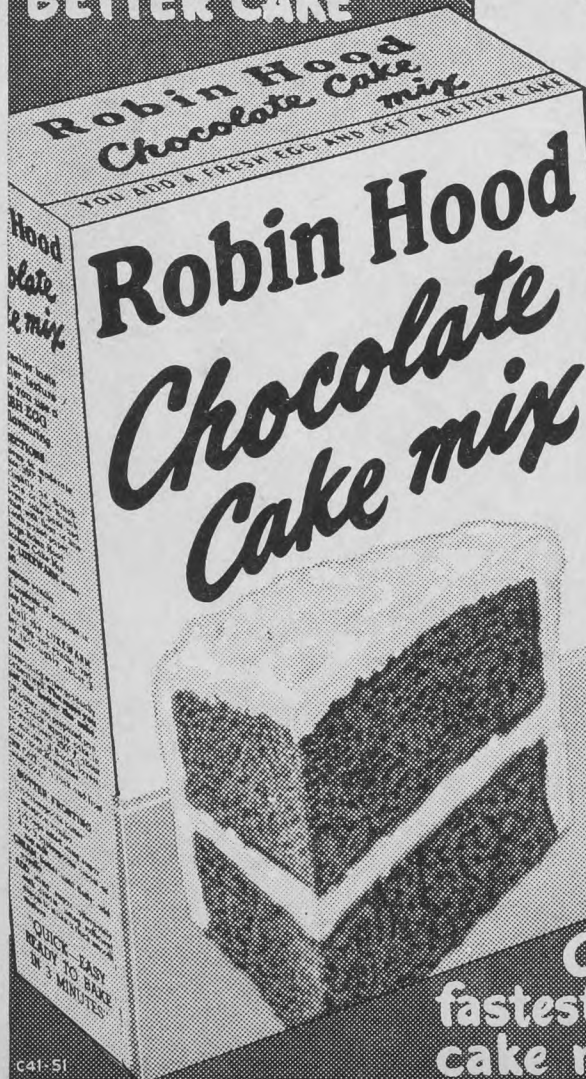
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neither to right nor left, intent on making distance. He had his Hudson's Bay hand-axe at his belt beneath his knee-length coat, his automatic on the other side. He had heard the catamount scream twice, off to the left, and he was taking no chances of being surprised by the hungry beast—or so he thought.

He had no warning, however. As he passed under the fallen spruce the catamount jumped him, striking its big mailed paws at his head and shoulders, trying to rip him open. One long, sharp curved claw pierced Jim's fur cap and dug into his scalp. Others tore deeply into the tough back of his coat. His big collar saved his neck. And he was strong and quick. He tore his coat open in front and at the same time flung himself violently forward. The coat came off over his head, his mittens going with it and the catamount was hurled into the deep snow against the rock. The coat covered its snarling head and writhing body for a moment.

Lawton snatched his axe from his belt and grabbed with his other hand for his gun, but had no time to draw it. The beast leaped at him, having

cat with it he would have been ripped to ribbons. One of his snowshoe straps was broken and he stooped to try to repair it but had to get away from the carcass, it stank so.

THE two rushers, Winton and Hannigan, came upon Lawton as he was giving up the effort to mend the broken strap with stiff fingers and they took care of him, efficiently.

"Lucky Lawton," they called him, again and again. "You're goin' back to Uncle Jack's with us."

"Like hell I am!" he croaked. "To my own camp. We can make it quicker than back to Uncle Jack's, and have a fire. Say, that big catamount jumped me from up in that tree. I never saw him at all. What's that awful stink?"

Winton sniffed the foul air and nodded grimly.

"It's bait dope," he said. "Rotten bait dope. Somebody must have set a trap in that tree. I'll have a look."

"Never mind that. We'd better get right on. We'll stiffen up, hanging around here. Where's my little old axe? Here it is. Blessed old axe. It's the one I drove my stakes with. Wouldn't want to lose that. It saved my life, too. Come on, now!"



untangled itself from the folds of the coat. It was a fight for life, and Jim knew it. The fierce snarls of the catamount spoke of a sort of desperate madness that was more blood chilling than 40 below.

Lawton was almost knocked over backwards by the beast's attack but he caught it with the keen axe, and cut a deep gash in one shoulder. He hacked at the head, which seemed as big as that of a lion, with its bristling whiskers, and blood spurted into Jim's face. He smelled a powerful, rotten odor and wondered if the animal had an old wound that had festered. It could not be a bad one for the cat jumped at him again, but was handicapped by the soft snow and a lucky swing of the axe split its skull open. It fell, kicking and rolling, at his feet.

Lawton backed away, and got his gun out but did not use it, because he saw that the beast was now dead. He found himself bleeding badly, his hands and forearms lacerated and a trickle of blood from his torn scalp was creeping down his neck. He was shivering despite his exertions, and he got his coat and shook it free of snow. It was torn in several places, but he struggled into it and got his hands into his mittens before he inspected the catamount closely.

It was an old grey male, its fangs somewhat dulled and broken, but those deadly claws were like razors. Jim realized that but for his quick action in shedding his coat and the

They kicked the dead catamount off the trail for the wolves to deal with later, and trudged on, turning into the woods on Jim's trail, marching single file, Jim leading. They were silent, saving their breath, for the exertion of hoofing it was enough and the air was like the fumes of dry ice in their nostrils and against their teeth.

SUDDENLY, Jim stopped and looked down and gasped out in a hoarse, strained voice:

"Someone's ahead of us! Listen!"

The sound of steel hammering on wood came to their ears.

"That's on my claim or close to it!" Lawton announced. "That's Marean or I'll eat my hatchet. See his tracks here, on top of mine. He must have been following me and—I'll kill him!"

Winton and Hannigan cautioned him, in whispers.

"We'll go after him all together, slow and quiet," Winton advised. "Say! He doped that catamount!"

"Doped him?"

"Sure! With that stinkin' bait mix. He wasn't settin' a trap for the cat. No sir, he was settin' a catamount trap for a man. For you, Jim Lawton. So you'd never go back to your strike. See?"

"Yeah, I see," muttered Jim and he mushed on, his face set, and no more words were spoken.

They came quietly up to the edge of Jim's partly cleared claim area and saw the bundled figure, lunging hur-



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riedly about, knocking out stakes, driving others in and they rushed him from three sides. But Lawton was first and was on him like a catamount himself. Marean dug for his gun, but went down with Lawton on top of him, his bloody hands gripping Marean's throat so that his eyes bulged out. His hand-axe had flown from his mitted hand when he went down. He made desperate efforts to break loose, choked and gagged and made frantic motions until Lawton relaxed his grip enough for him to talk and commanded him to do so.

"Spit it out!" he raged. "You thieving bum, you fixed it for that catamount to get me, didn't you? Doped him up that fir tree."

"No, no, no!" denied Marean. "I set a trap for him, that's all. He musta sprung it and got—"

"Lie again and I'll shut you off forever. You thought I'd be killed and you could restake here and get away with it—get away with murder. I've a mind to—"

"Why don't you shoot him?" asked Winton calmly. "You've a right to."

"I've got blood enough on my hands," he said oddly. "Frisk him, will you? He's probably got a gun somewhere. In his pants pockets, I guess."

WINTON and Hannigan knelt, each on one of Marean's arms while Jim sat on his feet and they searched him, roughly and thoroughly, while he blubbered and gibbered, frightened to hysteria. They got his short-snouted gun and a wallet and some papers, his licence and a creased, worn letter which Jim snatched and read the address.

"It's mine!" he cried. "That's where my lost letter went to. You picked it up, at Catamount. Uh, huh! That's why you wanted to have me go in with you. You read it and found out I'd have money. Get up and get going. Run! Get out of this country for good and stay out!"

He jerked Marean to his feet and stepped back and drew his gun. Marean screamed and ran for the woods and shots kicked up the snow behind him and pinged into the trees until the gun was empty.

"If it'd been me I'd 'a killed him," remarked Winton, in a dry voice. "I would. Say, you better do something for those hands of yours, quick."

"They're all right. Warm as toast, now. I couldn't kill a man that way. But he'll have to be lucky to get out to Catamount. His hands are empty. No gun, no axe, nothing. Say, you fellows want to stake now? It's light enough."

"No, we'll build a fire. Where's your shack? You've got to have hot water and soap for those scratches. Catamount's claws are pizen. Gold won't do you much good if you lose your hands."

"That's right," said Jim. "And I want to read the rest of Anne's letter. My girl, you know."

He began to laugh as he led them toward his camp.

"What's the joke, partner?" asked Hannigan.

"If I hadn't lost this letter," he said slowly, "I'd have been out of luck."

"How is that?"

"I wouldn't have come up here, alone. I wouldn't have found that elephant rock. I must be just lucky. I am. I'll show you Anne's picture and you'll say so. Boys, this is going to be the Queen Anne Mine."

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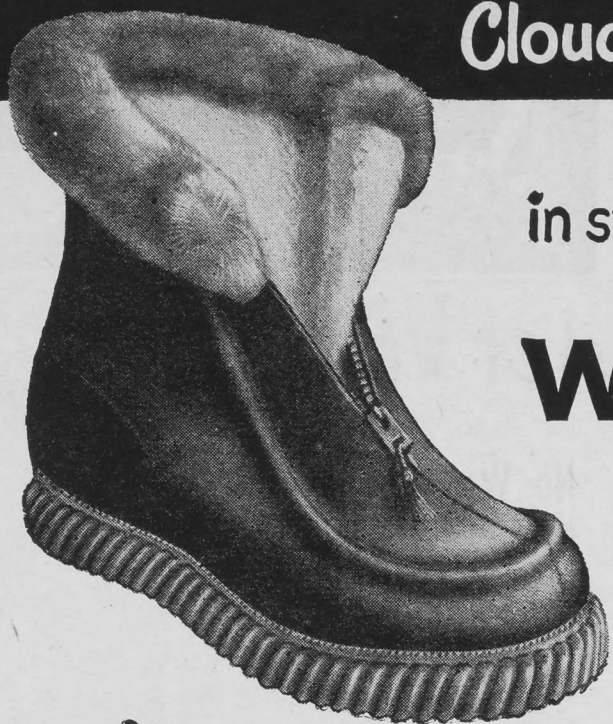
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Mountain Musing

*Looking down from the rim of heaven
I see blue-eyed morning swing
On golden ropes over valley darkness—
Out and down until everything
Is drenched with light and the brown hills
waken,*

Flushed from sleep, to a flash of wing.

*Looking down from the rim of heaven
Cities small as a gossiped word
Lie at my feet, with their strident yammer
Only a light tale I have heard
That lost itself in the manzanita
And the song of a white-crowned bird.*

*Looking down from the rim of heaven
With the stars in my moon-gilt hair,
I am caught by the hand of silence
And held for a shining moment where
The old is new and the word forgotten
Waits in the tingling darkness there.*

—GILEAN DOUGLAS.

THERE are special days for almost everyone and everything under the sun, but not for auntie. "And why should there be?" you may ask. "What is there so special about a mere aunt?" To this I reply: "Aunts aren't so 'mere'!"

I speak with authority, for not only am I an aunt myself several times over, a maiden aunt at that, but as my Victorian grandparents had seven daughters on each side of the family, there were many aunts in my life.

There was Aunt Jane, left a widow on a Manitoba farm in the early days with everything mortgaged but the children, whom she raised to be well-to-do farmers. She was rather stern, but I remember her with gratitude every night when I lay my head on the goose feather pillows she gave me.

Aunt Mary lived in town and was very stylish with hair-cloth parlor furniture and colored glass in the front door. We children liked it when mother sent us on errands to Aunt Mary's, for she always gave us a "piece" spread with brown sugar, gooseberry jam or something equally nice. We would have agreed with James Whitcomb Riley's tribute to his Aunt Mary:

*"The jelly, the jam and the marmalade,
And the cherry and quince preserves she made!
And the sweet-sour pickles of peach and pear,
With cinnamon in them, and all things rare!
And the more we ate was the more to spare,
Out to old Aunt Mary's!"*

Best of all there was Aunt Lizzie—(everyone should have an Aunt Lizzie!) When summer holidays rolled around she used to come after us with Dolly in the top buggy and take us up to the old farm to stay indefinitely. She never got cross with us except when we forgot to wear our sunbonnets. "There's that girl out without her sunbonnet again. She'll be covered with freckles," she would cry. I still have the sunbonnet she made me—and the freckles too.

There was just one spinster aunt—my Aunt Elsie, who lived with grandpa whom she took care of, and a married brother and his wife whose children she helped to raise. Babysitters were no problem to them. Probably modern business women would pity Aunt Elsie with her long hours of household duties, minding children, milking cows and carrying water up the hill in pails from the spring. But don't pity Aunt Elsie too much. She didn't have to turn out to the office every day, rain or shine, worry about the boss's or the public's moods, nor wrestle with the transit system. Once a week she had the use of the horse and buggy to go to town and deliver the butter from her own cow to a few choice customers, do her shopping and make some calls. She had the satisfaction of being needed in the home and having a place in the community. She sat in the family pew on Sundays and is buried in the family plot.

The children she helped to raise have named some of their daughters after her.

BESIDES these real aunts, we had our favorites among the aunts of fiction. Tom Sawyer's Aunt Polly, one of the best known aunts in literature, is supposed to have been modelled on Mark Twain's own aunt who brought him up. Like other children, we chuckled over the tricks Tom played on the old lady. When she sewed his collar up so she could tell if he had been swimming, Tom kept a needle with thread under the lapel of his coat to sew it up again, but forgot whether she had used black or white. "He's full of the old scratch," Aunt Polly wailed, "but laws a' me! he's my own dead sister's son, and I ain't got the heart to lash him, somehow."

"Little Women" is probably still the best loved of girls' stories, but Aunt March was not the best loved of aunts. When the March family lost their money, you remember, the childless old lady offered to adopt one of the girls and was much offended when the offer was declined. Later she relented and hired Jo as a companion. Jo would read her aunt dull essays till she fell asleep, and then hurry away to her own favorite book. Just as she was in the most interesting part, however, she would hear her aunt's shrill voice calling "Josy-phine! Josy-phine!" and

Some aunts, famous in fact and fiction and an appreciation of their place in the scheme of life

by GEORGINA H. THOMSON

she would have to go and wind yarn, wash the poodle or read aloud more dull essays. In the end, however, Aunt March left Jo Plumfield her big house and the poodle. Jo and her professor were able to open there their school for boys, which we heard all about in "Little Men."

Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm, another childhood favorite, had two aunts with whom she went to live in their big red brick house in the village. Aunt Miranda and Aunt Jane disapproved of Rebecca because her mother had eloped with a musician. Rebecca wrote to her brother: "Dear John, you remember when we tied the new dog in the barn how he bit the rope and howled. I am just like him only the brick house is the barn and I cannot bite Aunt M. because I must be grateful and education is going to be the making of me and help you pay off the mortgage when we grow up."

We children were very gratified when Rebecca worked her way into the hearts of her aunts, especially the hard, unwilling heart of Aunt Miranda.

In our more adult reading we came to Jane Austen whose domestic and very feminine stories abound in aunts. We remember especially Aunt Gardiner in "Pride and Prejudice," who came to the rescue so nobly when silly Lydia eloped with "Mr." Wickham.

George Eliot too, has given us a number of aunts. Mrs. Poyser in "Adam Bede," who adopts her niece, Hetty Sorrel, is an unforgettable character whose kindness of heart is equalled by her sharpness of speech.

"I'm not denying the women are foolish," she says. "God almighty made 'em to match the men."

THE most memorable of George Eliot's aunts are those who made Maggie Tulliver's life so miserable in "The Mill on the Floss." There was severe Aunt Glegg who, when in a strange house, always ate dry bread, having no confidence in the butter; and mournful Aunt Pullet, who enjoyed bad health and "had great experience of pink mixture and white mixture, strong stuff in small bottles and weak stuff in large bottles, damp boluses at a shilling and draughts at 18 pence. It was Maggie's Aunt Moss, however, who comforted her in her unhappy love affair with Stephen.

Dickens was a great admirer of aunts and depicted a masterpiece in "David Copperfield" in the person of Miss Betsy Trotwood. In an essay "In Praise of Maiden Aunts" Alpha of the Plow pays tribute to her.

"Take the most illustrious of all maiden aunts, the dear, lovable, unforgettable Betsy Trotwood," he writes. "I have had many affairs of the heart in fiction from Rosalind to Tess, but I do not think that there is any woman who lives in books who ever won my affection more securely and uninterruptedly than Miss Trotwood. . . . What would David have done without that sublime woman? What would any nieces and nephews do if there were no maiden aunts? Betsy Trotwood was the perfect type and pattern of all the tribe."

Just to round out the fictional aunts, let me recommend to you Aunt Topaz, the "Innocent Traveller" in the delightful book of that title by Ethel Wilson of Vancouver. We suspect that Aunt Topaz is really not fictional after all, for surely only a real niece could have described her and her foibles with such tender amusement. Her death at 100 in the tall apartment house past whose windows the gulls fly out to sea is a little poem in itself.

Real aunts have played their parts in the lives of other authors. Emerson's Aunt Mary was eccentric almost to the point of insanity. Desiring to die, she bought herself a shroud and wore it day and night, even riding horseback with a scarlet cloak thrown over it. Yet she it was who inspired America's great philosopher with a love for fine literature, shaped his literary style and skill with words, and made him feel he must live up to the Emerson tradition of greatness. His journal abounds in loving references to her.

Thomas Gray, whose "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard," is said to be the best known poem in the English language, wrote it while spending his vacations from Cambridge with his mother and two devoted aunts in the little village of Stoke Poges. It was through their self-denial that he had been able to go to college, and he did his best writing in the quiet refuge of their home. The elegy took him several years to write, and it was his Aunt Mary's death that created the mood in which he was able to finish it. He wrote the inscription for her tomb—"In the vault beneath are deposited in the hope of a joyful resurrection the remains of Mary Antrobus. She died unmarried, November 5, 1745, aged 66." When Gray came to die a quarter of a century later, at his own request he was buried in the same tomb.

THAT colossal work of Gibbon's, "The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," would never have been written had not the author's aunt, Miss Catherine Porter, nursed him through a delicate childhood. His six brothers and sisters had all died young, and his mother was more interested in society than in the boy. When she died, he went to live with his maternal grandfather, still under the care of Aunt Catherine. Too delicate to go to school at first, he browsed through the fine library in the home, his aunt encouraging him to read widely, especially in history. When she felt he needed the companionship of boys of his own age, she took a job as housemother at Westminster School, where she enrolled Edward as a pupil. Nearly 30 years later when she died, he wrote of her—"To her I owe a taste for books which is still the pleasure and glory of my life."

And was not Bob Edwards of "Eyeopener" fame, brought up by a maiden aunt? He was connected on his mother's side with the Chambers family of Scotland, owners of Chambers' journal. His father and mother died when he was a little boy, but a maiden aunt came to the rescue and made a home for him and his brother. She became a real mother to him as he attested with affectionate gratitude in later years, but no one seems to know what the quiet Scottish gentlewoman thought of the Calgary "Eyeopener" or whether Bob ever sent her a copy.

No, aunts really aren't so "mere!"

New House from an Old School



Exterior of remodelled house showing addition at front and transplanted shrubs.

I THOUGHT I got my education while attending Suthwyn schoolhouse," young Fred Van Slyck says, "but it wasn't until we started living in it that I discovered how little I knew."

It was back in the hard times of 1937 that the little schoolhouse, long deserted, was put on the market and Fred purchased the 24 by 18 foot building for the sum of \$85. The school, built in 1888, was one of the first in the Springfield district, located on the open prairie 12 miles east of Winnipeg. Fred will proudly take you down into the basement and point out that the wooden studs and rough flooring seen overhead, are as good today as they were when first set in place with hand-made square-head nails 67 years ago.

With the help of friends the little schoolhouse was moved half a mile down the road to Fred's farm, and people in the district shook their heads and said, "You'll never live in it."

But they didn't figure on the grit and determination of Fred and Wyn Van Slyck when, with their small daughter Audrey, they moved into a place they could call their own, no matter how dilapidated looking.

The first step was the insulation of the building, and the erection of a windbreak to shield it from the strong northwest winds that blow fiercely across the prairie. Remodelling a house is not a difficult task when ample funds are at hand. But the Van Slycks were starting on a very limited budget. All labor must be their own, and all the required materials must be obtained at minimum cost.

The windbreak was built by back-breaking trips to the riverbank ten miles away where small elm, maple and wild fruit trees were dug up. "We transplanted dozens of shrubs in the fall but didn't recognize them until the blossoms appeared in the spring," Wyn laughs now. "We must have dug up a thousand trees and shrubs for the windbreak."

Now the produce of these same fruit trees, supplemented with garden harvest, yield some 500 quarts annually for her preserve-cupboard and town freezer-locker.

Last spring 200 tiny blue spruce trees were purchased from the Forest Nursery Station, Indian Head, at the

rate of one cent a piece. This is an agricultural service available to western farmers planting in the interests of soil conservation and rural beautification. Fred is alert to the aid to be secured from provincial and federal government services. The moment a mysterious blight or insect is seen doing damage to trees or crops he solicits the advice and aid of these government offices with the result that



Wyn Van Slyck working in corner of living room. Note her flower paintings.

he possesses one of the "cleanest" farms in the district.

The Van Slyck farm has no stock. It is a grain farm completely power-operated. "Wyn has enough to do cooking for three men," Fred says, remembering their earlier days of long hours spent in the stable and milkhouse. Now he can, with the aid of a hired man and his father's help—who makes his home with the young people—take care of his own land and several hundred acres belonging to the elder Van Slyck.

THE small storm-porch that offered such meagre protection to the classroom was removed and placed at the east side, to become the rear entrance of the house; the window on the extreme right cut to door-size. The remaining two windows were removed

How Fred and Wyn Van Slyck converted an old school building into an attractive and modern dwelling

by NAN SHIPLEY

and treated as a single unit of some ten feet in length. An additional 16 feet was added to the length of the school. A new roof, brick insulation, and a stoker-furnace ensured warmth. The plumbing, the electrical work, and all the interior finishing was done by Fred, in spite of the fact that he had never, until he bought the old building, had any experience with carpenters' tools.

The school was now a house boasting a combination kitchen-dining room, two bedrooms divided by bath, a living room 16 by 18, and a small entrance hall, all awaiting Wyn's artistic touch.

Fred has throughout the transformation always been the builder, working to her plans, and during the early stages often remarked, "I hope that you know what we're doing because I don't!"

Wyn is a small, slim feminine person who wears her ash-blonde hair in braids looped in a distinctive style at the back of her head. The whole interior of this unique house is a masterpiece of her ingenious labor-saving

much like a handlebar mustache. The glass was removed and hung at the desired angle and as Fred was walking away with the "mustache" Wyn called out, "Don't destroy that. I'm going to set it on a couple of spools and use it for a bed headboard!"

An example of the labor-saving ideas found is seen in the half-wall that divides the dinette from the kitchen. The sink forms part of this wall and when the dishes are dried they are stacked away in the wall cupboard without moving a step. Then when setting the dining table the same dishes are removed from the dinette side. All Wyn's cupboards have stepped shelves at the rear, making it possible to see and reach all the contents without disarranging those in the foreground.

Under the kitchen window Fred built a drop-table which when not in use lies flat against the wall. This one piece alone has three functions: it serves as ironing board, a table for the portable sewing machine, and baking board. Small drawers on one side contain all of Wyn's sewing equipment. Cupboards on the other hold cooking utensils. When Fred and Wyn are alone they frequently have their meals at this sunny spot.

The ceiling of the kitchen-dinette has been treated as a single room and like the south wall covered with a cheery ivy-patterned paper that drops seven or eight inches down the walls. The illusion of reality is heightened by the fact that in two corners are ivy plants, their long green vines trained seemingly to intermingle with the artificial foliage.

Once the large window replaced the two smaller ones Wyn was faced with the problem of hanging curtains that would withstand the strong sunlight pouring from the east. After several failures with commercial material that faded hopelessly, she bleached flour sacks snow-white and with green crayon sketched an ivy pattern above a deep flounce. "The pattern doesn't fade and it can easily be retouched after each washing if necessary."

THE bathroom was a real problem since its size did not permit a dressing-table or room for a make-up shelf that would jut out. Here Wyn had the idea of recessing the wall over the washbasin four inches and setting a large mirror over the basin. The result was one of the best features in the house once a row of small drawers was added beneath the narrow counter-shelf. Here is provided plenty of room for a man's shaving paraphernalia—a handy spot for bobby-pins and combs, and all the tiny boxes and bottles required for modern toiletry. Putting on make-up over a washbasin also keeps the powder in an easily disposable spot. Green and yellow predominate in this room and here the curtains, gay as daffodils, have no recognizable kinship with their humble origin as flour sacks.

devices happily blended with rare beauty of surroundings. When she found that large wardrobes and dressers, so necessary for neatness, were going to crowd the bedrooms she designed special cupboards to hold garments of all sizes with drawers of graduated depths and easy accessibility.

"The secret of living in a small space is to have recessed shelves and drawers built for specific purposes. Too many homes have cupboards that are so deep the average housewife cannot reach the back wall, and many shelves and drawers are too deep."

She has an eye for seeing the potentialities in old pieces. Once she purchased an old-fashioned dresser for \$6.00 because she wanted the good mirror that was set on a curlicue, very



Combined dining space and kitchen with separating half-wall.

All the interior cornices, like those over the exterior doors, were made by Fred, and his work on the fireplace Wyn designed has a craftsman-like finish that set off her beautiful flower water-colors to advantage.

Although her artistic talents find many outlets, painting is undoubtedly Wyn's most outstanding hobby. Favorite studies are flowers from her own garden or wild flowers gathered from the prairie—wild-roses, daisies, blue-bells and many others since any beautiful flower gives her the inspiration to paint. Many of her pictures have found their place in homes all across Canada, and she has had pictures hung in both Winnipeg and Toronto art galleries.

All her work shows great originality—her petite-point patterns executed with the finest needle and thread on the sheerest mesh, are developed as she works. She has for years made all her own and Audrey's clothes without benefit of pattern. Her gifts are usually handmade, as are the family Christmas greeting cards. One of her hobbies is creating attractive belts, bags, toys and slippers from old felt hats. She washes the felt to cleanse it and while wet works it into the desired shape. She studies the form first and then begins work. "Felt is such a pliable and durable material I wonder why so much of it is wasted. I have one black bag that I made from an old felt hat 12 years ago, and children's slippers when blocked with padded soles last almost as long as leather."

Wyn's art work is done in front of the living room picture-window with its northern exposure, and her most

useful studio piece is well disguised in the smart cabinet of fibre-wood with a drop-front that Fred set in the front hall. When open this reveals the storage place for Wyn's large paintings—a safe and convenient spot when interested parties call to look over her collection.

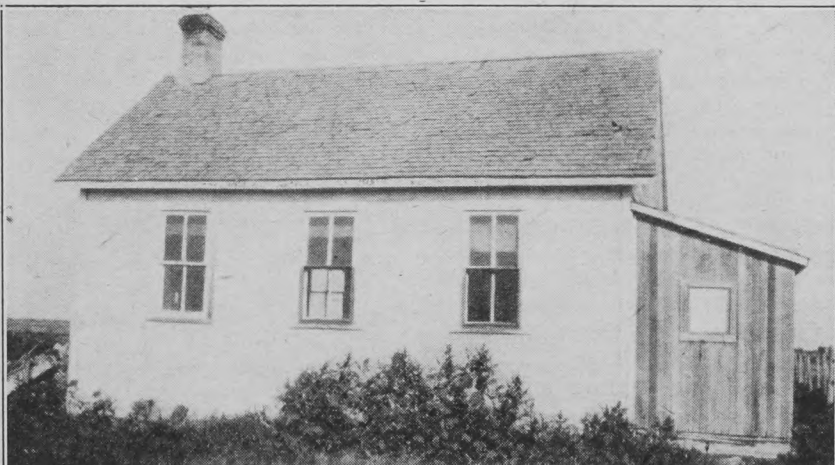


Compact clothes storage space.

"NOW that the house is finished," she says, "we look back and think of all the fun we had doing it, and not the work. Working and planning together makes all the difference between drudgery and contentment."

It was inevitable that their daughter Audrey should not only take part in the fun of converting an old school into a charming house but that she should

(Please turn to page 53)



The old Suthwyn School as it appeared when bought by Fred.

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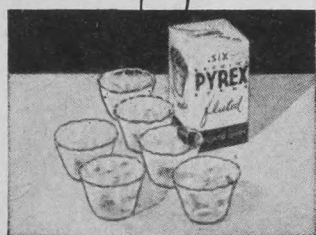
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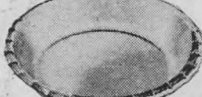
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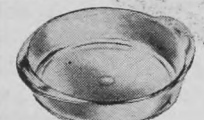
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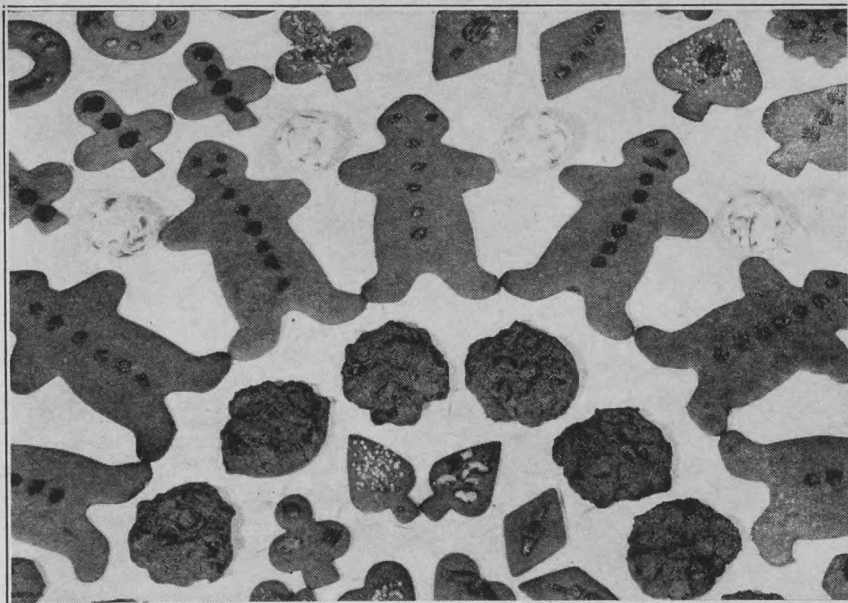
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A delicious array of lunch-box and after-school treats.

Molasses Cookies

Keep the cookie jar well filled with one or more of these tempting cookies

THERE is nothing quite like cookie baking to make the kitchen the most attractive room in the house. The men are almost sure to choose that afternoon for coffee. One of the neighbors will probably drop in and as the youngsters come in from school several gingersnaps and a glass of cold milk will be really appreciated.

The majority of these molasses cookies are drop cookies, the most easily and quickly made of all. The butterballs will be something different for a plate of dainties and the molasses creams is another version of the cookie bar. Have several types in the cookie jar for school lunches, afternoon teas and midnight snacks.

Oatmeal Molasses Cookies

¾ c. flour	½ tsp. cloves
½ c. sugar	2½ c. rolled oats
2 tsp. baking powder	1 c. raisins
½ tsp. salt	¾ c. melted shortening
2 tsp. soda	1 beaten egg
1 tsp. cinnamon	¾ c. molasses
½ tsp. nutmeg	1 T. milk

Sift together flour, sugar, baking powder, soda and spices then sift again over rolled oats and raisins. Combine in a bowl, shortening, egg, molasses and milk. Pour over dry ingredients. Mix well. Bake test cookie; add more flour if necessary. Drop by teaspoonfuls on greased cookie sheet. Bake in moderate oven (350° F.) 15 minutes. Makes 3 dozen cookies.

Molasses Creams

½ c. shortening	1½ c. sifted flour
½ c. sugar	1½ tsp. baking powder
1 egg	¾ tsp. salt
½ c. molasses	¼ tsp. soda
⅓ c. strong, hot coffee	1 tsp. cinnamon
½ tsp. cloves	

Cream together thoroughly shortening and sugar. Blend in beaten egg, molasses and hot coffee. Sift together dry ingredients; add to creamed mixture; blend well. Pour into a greased, waxed-paper-lined 9 by 13-inch pan. Bake in a moderate oven (350° F.) 25 minutes. While warm frost with powdered sugar frosting. Cool and cut in squares. Makes 1½ dozen bars.

Crackle-top Ginger Cookies

1 c. shortening	2 tsp. soda
2 c. brown sugar	2 tsp. ginger
1 egg	1 tsp. vanilla
1 c. molasses	1 tsp. lemon extract
4 c. sifted flour	
½ tsp. salt	

Cream shortening thoroughly and add sugar gradually. Blend in molasses and well-beaten egg. Beat until light and fluffy. Sift together flour, salt, soda and ginger. Blend dry ingredients gradually into creamed mixture. Dough should be soft but not sticky if tops are to crackle. Add vanilla and lemon extract. Chill until the dough can be handled with light dusting of flour on hands and board (4 hours). Shape into balls about 1½ inches in diameter. Place on greased cookie sheet but do not flatten. Bake in moderate oven (350° F.) 12 to 15 minutes or until brown. Sprinkle with sugar, then remove from cookie sheet with pancake turner. Makes 30 lunch-size cookies.

Crisp Molasses Cookies

3 c. sifted flour	2 tsp. ginger
1 tsp. salt	⅓ c. sugar
1 tsp. soda	¾ c. shortening
2 tsp. cinnamon	1½ c. molasses

Sift together dry ingredients. Cut shortening into dry ingredients with pastry blender or 2 table knives. Heat molasses and add to mixture. Chill dough until stiff enough to roll (3 hours or overnight). Roll very thin, 1/16-inch, on lightly floured board. Cut with cookie cutter in desired shapes. Decorate with nuts, colored sugar or orange peel. Bake on lightly greased cookie sheets in hot oven (400° F.) 7 or 8 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool; store separately in a tightly covered tin box. Makes 6 dozen cookies.

Molasses Butterballs

2 c. walnuts	2 c. sifted flour
1 c. butter	½ tsp. salt
¼ c. molasses	

Chop walnuts fine. Cream butter, add molasses. Sift together flour and salt. Stir chopped nuts into flour mixture, blend well. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture. Shape dough into small balls, about 1 inch in diameter. Place on greased cookie sheet and bake in moderate oven (350° F.) 25 minutes or until lightly browned. Roll in powdered sugar while warm. Makes 4 dozen balls.

Spicy Molasses Drops

¾ c. shortening	¼ tsp. salt
1 c. brown sugar	2 tsp. soda
1 egg	1 tsp. cinnamon
¼ c. molasses	1 tsp. ginger
2 c. flour	½ tsp. cloves

Cream shortening and sugar thoroughly. Blend in unbeaten egg and molasses. Sift flour; measure; sift together dry ingredients. Stir into creamed mixture, mix well. Shape into balls about ¾-inch across. Dip tops in sugar. Place on greased cookie sheets. Bake in moderate oven 12 to 15 minutes.

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Good Looks

Careful self-analysis helps
by increasing satisfaction
and confidence

by LORETTA MILLER

EVERY girl likes to possess certain outstanding qualities of attractiveness. Either she takes pride in her bright, lustrous hair; her flawless complexion; her well-proportioned figure; her soft, smooth hands or, perhaps she finds her eyes, lips, nose or facial contour her most attractive feature. Look for your best points of interest, beauty-wise, and play up to them!

The girl who is more than passing in good looks has little in the way of attractiveness to worry about. But the girl who must make the most of her basic beauty can take heart in knowing that she can be outstandingly good looking. A careful examination of her over-all beauty picture is certain to reveal at least one or two points of interest. If it is found that her hair is of fine quality but lacks brightness, a light rinse following a thorough shampoo will help. A more flattering hairdo, too, will step up her good looks until she finds that her newly beautified hair is attracting attention to it and away from her less attractive features.

Brushing the hair every day has been known to enhance its beauty a hundredfold. Brushing puts a polish on the hair and makes it more obedient so that it can be very readily trained to follow new lines. If the hair seems too tightly set after a shampoo and wave, try using a clean brush for brushing it into flattering lines. Hair that is bushy and unmanageable will be put in its proper place quickly by good brushing.

Even the best figure in the world appears badly proportioned when the posture is wrong. Take inventory of yourself and see yourself as others see you. If your figure is well proportioned, but seems slumped and tired looking, you can step up your figure comments by literally watching your step. Start by straightening your shoulders and standing erect. Then pull in your abdomen as you straighten your hips and raise your chin. Then step forward without letting any of your newly aligned figure get out of line. Hold your body erect and chin up as you walk along. Do this until it becomes a habit. It will then be a definite part of your appearance.

Close analysis reveals that most figure faults come about through bad posture. Study your every move for a day or two. Do you slump in a chair? Then watch out: rounded shoulders, protruding abdomen and thickness through the waist and just below it are likely to result. Watch, too, for that first sign of an underchin shadow. None of these is a definite sign of age, but generally can be traced back to bad posture. Drooping shoulders release the muscles along the neck, upper chest and underchin, permitting the lower facial contour and underchin to sag. All of these can be considered figure-faults resulting from bad posture.

It has often been said that one's hands tell a great deal about one's

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BUTTERFLY BUNS (Makes 20 Buns)

Scald

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup milk
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup granulated sugar
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons salt
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup shortening

Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm. In the meantime, measure into a large bowl

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup lukewarm water
1 teaspoon granulated sugar
and stir until sugar is dissolved.

Sprinkle with contents of
1 envelope Fleischmann's
Fast Rising Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well; stir in cooled milk mixture and
1 well-beaten egg

Stir in

2 cups once-sifted bread flour
and beat until smooth; work in
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ cups once-sifted bread flour

Turn out on lightly-floured board and knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in greased bowl, brush top with melted butter or shortening. Cover and set dough in warm place, free from draught and let rise until doubled in bulk. While dough is rising, combine

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup brown sugar (lightly pressed down)
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons ground cinnamon
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup washed and dried seedless raisins
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup chopped candied peels

Punch down dough and divide into 2 equal portions; form into smooth balls. Roll each

piece into an oblong 24 inches long and $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide; loosen dough. Spread each oblong with

2 tablespoons soft butter or margarine

and sprinkle with the raisin mixture. Beginning at the long edges, roll each side up to the centre, jelly-roll fashion. Flatten slightly and cut each strip crosswise into 10 pieces. Using a lightly-floured handle of a knife, make a deep crease in the centre of each bun, parallel to the cut sides. Place, well apart, on greased cookie sheets. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375° , about 18 minutes. If desired, cool and spread with confectioners' icing.



CANNED SALMON

A GOOD
SOURCE OF
ESSENTIAL
FOOD
ELEMENTS



Canned
SALMON

For Bad Cough Mix This Splendid Recipe, at Home

You'll be pleasantly surprised when you make up this easily prepared mixture and try it for a distressing cough. It is no trouble to mix, and costs but a trifle, yet it can be depended upon to give quick relief.

Make a syrup by stirring 2 cups of granulated sugar and 1 cup of water for a few moments until dissolved. No cooking needed. (Or you can use corn syrup or liquid honey, instead of sugar syrup.) Get a 2½ ounce bottle of Pinex from any druggist, put it into a 16 ounce bottle and fill up with your syrup. The 16 ounces thus made gives you four times as much cough medicine for your money, and is a very effective relief for coughs. Keeps perfectly and tastes fine.

This splendid mixture has a three-fold action. It soothes the irritated membranes, loosens the phlegm and helps to clear the air passages. Thus it makes breathing easy, and lets you get restful sleep.

Pinex is a special compound of proven ingredients, in concentrated form, well known as a soothing agent for winter coughs. Money refunded if it does not please you in every way.

FOR EXTRA CONVENIENCE GET NEW,
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TUNE IN —

"MUSICAL KITCHEN"

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Robin Hood Flour

character. One thing is certain, however, one's hands do reveal much and tell whether or not the individual is fastidious about her grooming. Well-shaped nails, with flawlessly white tips, and smooth hands are considered by many to be a girl's most easily gained beauty-spot. It is interesting to know that hands play such an important part in one's ensemble. When the nails are kept well shaped and clean, it isn't important to use a colorful polish. In fact, many girls are again using a chamois buffer for giving the nails a natural gloss, or a colorless nail enamel for adding brightness to the fingertips.

ANY good skin softening agent used each day, especially after washing the hands and at night before retiring, will do much to keep the skin soft and smooth. Dry the hands well after each washing, then smooth on and rub in a liberal application of hand cream or lotion. If and when the hands get rough and red, concentrate a little care on them for a day or two and they will again be smooth and lovely. To overcome roughness and redness, do this: scrub the hands and dry them. Then make an application of camphor ice, or your favorite lotion or cream, and rub it into the hands for at least five minutes. Use a soft tissue for wiping off any surplus. If this is done at night, let the final application remain on and, if possible, wear a pair of thin cotton gloves to bed.

If your hands are your most interesting beauty-spot, you can step up their attractiveness by giving attention to nails and keeping them flawless.

Unless your basic skin is good your complexion will be off key. A slight roughness just under the skin, as well as enlarged pores dotted with darkness, can be greatly improved by proper care. It has often been said that a lovely skin is a girl's best beauty weapon, and if this is true, it might also be said that this asset is easiest of all to get. Although there are many factors concerned with the skin, each can be given consideration without benefit of professional care. Proper diet, avoiding an overabundance of sweets, greasy, starchy and fried foods; sufficient fresh air and exercise each day, and correct elimination, plus thorough cleanliness of the skin each day will improve even the worst skin. In keeping the skin clean, it is of great importance that washcloth, towel, powder and rouge puff and everything that touches the face be clean.

Whether or not one's features are well proportioned, a nice complexion will add much to one's appearance and it may well be that this will be one's greatest beauty asset.

Whether you are unusually tall or short, make the most of it. The very tall girl will appear stately and regal if she stands erect so that her body is brought to its full height. Too often the extremely tall girl slouches in an effort to appear shorter, and this only calls attention to any figure fault. The little girl, however, will do well if she makes an effort to stand tall by keeping the body erect.

Don't look for flaws in your appearance, but if they are there, don't close your eyes to them, but try to overcome them.

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EVERY TIME

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Best Yeast

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Potatoes on Parade

For flavor, economy and food value they are important

POTATOES twice a day are a habit with many families and almost everyone eats them at least once daily. In fact, just leave them off the dinner table once and Dad remarks, "Not much for dinner tonight, I see."

Potatoes are a good habit the year round. They contain vitamin C, thiamin and iron as well as small amounts of several other necessary minerals. They add to the satisfaction of a meal and they are economical food. Even for the person who must watch her weight they are necessary. They contain no more calories than an apple or a banana. But watch the gravy, butter and other fats served with the potatoes—they really "pile up" the calories.

If potatoes are inclined to turn dark when boiled it is probably due to late maturation. Adding a little vinegar or lemon juice to the cooking water will keep them white.

To make better scalloped potatoes make the white sauce separately and pour it over the sliced raw potatoes. Sprinkling flour over each layer and pouring in the milk may seem easier but it often causes curdling.

Cooking potatoes in the skins is not only a timesaver but it is recommended nutritionally as most of the vitamins are located close to the skins. Eating the skins of steamed or baked potatoes is acceptable, etiquette-wise, too. If potatoes must be pared remember to keep the peelings thin.

Cheese-baked Potatoes

Scrub four large potatoes well. Cut diagonally with skins on in slices 1½ inches thick. Place in a layer in buttered baking dish. Sprinkle with salt. Brush with hot fat. Bake uncovered (400° F.) for 40 minutes. Remove from oven. Top each potato with a slice of cheddar cheese. Return to oven to melt cheese (5 minutes). Serves 6.

Provincial Potatoes

3 lbs. new potatoes	1 tsp. grated lemon rind
¼ c. butter	1 T. lemon juice
2 T. chopped chives	¼ tsp. salt
	Dash. of pepper

Steam potatoes, jackets on, in a colander over boiling water, until tender. Melt butter; add remaining ingredients. Pour into a warm pitcher. Pass with potatoes. This sauce is equally good with baked potatoes.

Potato Casserole

4 slices bacon	Dash of pepper
4 c. grated raw potato	1 tsp. salt
	½ tsp. mace
4 eggs	½ tsp. thyme

Chop raw bacon and spread in the bottom of a greased 9-inch pan. Mix salt and grated potato; fold into the eggs, which have been beaten until light and foamy. Add seasonings; pour mixture over bacon. Bake 1 hour at 375° F.; spread a tablespoon of butter over the top at half time. Serve hot.

Hot Potato Salad

4 strips bacon	¼ c. water
½ c. onion	½ c. vinegar
¼ c. celery	1 tsp. salt
1 dill pickle	1 tsp. paprika
6 medium cooked potatoes	¼ tsp. mustard

Cut bacon in pieces; brown. Add chopped onion, celery and pickle. Cook 5 minutes. Add water, vinegar and seasoning and bring to a boil. Add diced, cooked potatoes. Heat thoroughly and serve.

Potato Dumplings

1½ c. mashed potatoes	1 tsp. salt
	½ tsp. nutmeg
1 egg	3 tsp. baking powder
1 c. milk	
½ c. sifted flour	¼ tsp. pepper

Beat egg and add to mashed potato. Stir in milk. Sift flour with spices and baking powder; add to potato mixture. Add 1 T. chopped parsley if desired. Drop by spoonfuls onto top of bubbling stew. Cover tightly and continue boiling for 8 to 10 minutes.

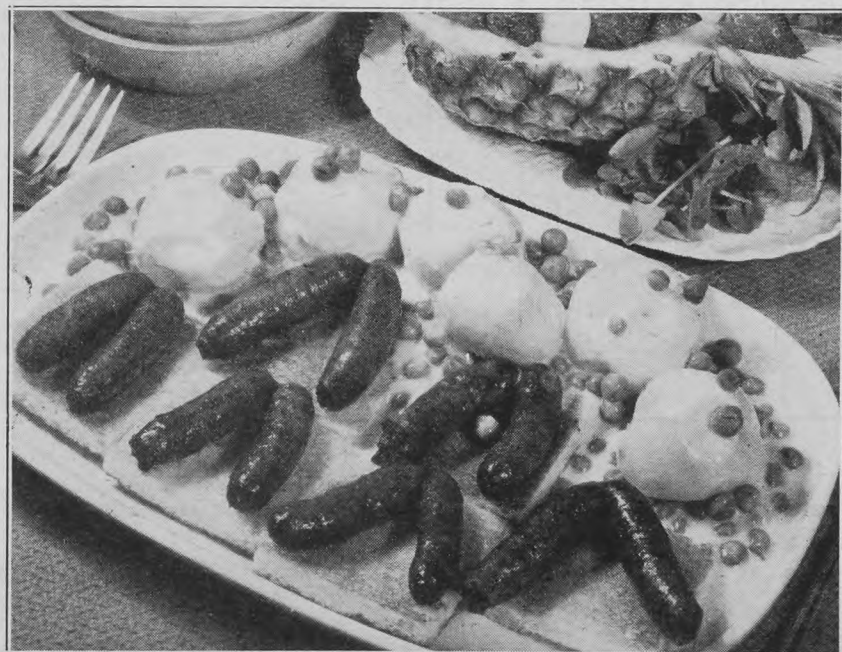
Potato Pancakes

3 large potatoes	½ tsp. salt
2 eggs	1 T. milk
1 T. flour	

Wash and peel potatoes. Dry; grate into mixing bowl containing slightly beaten eggs; work quickly to prevent darkening. Add salt, milk and flour. Mix quickly. Add another teaspoon of flour if needed to make batter hold shape on griddle. Drop batter in circles, the size of small pancakes, on a hot, well-greased griddle. Bake over moderate heat 5 minutes on each side. Serve very hot, with butter or sour cream.

New Potatoes and Peas

Cook fresh peas and new potatoes separately. Prepare thin white sauce allowing 1 cup sauce for 4 to 6 servings. Heat peas and potatoes in sauce. Serve immediately.



Creamed peas and potatoes with sausages make an interesting supper.

To Make a Man Beam...



this mocha masterpiece

by **MAGIC!**

What man could resist this exotic dream of a cake . . . coffee-flavored . . . speckled all through with shaved chocolate . . . spread over with billowy-deep coffee frosting! Delicate to the last wispy crumb — made *light as chiffon* with Magic!

Yes, for tender, moist, fine-textured cakes every time you can count on pure Magic Baking Powder. Safeguards your precious ingredients—yet Magic costs less than 1¢ per average baking. No wonder 3 out of 4 Canadian housewives insist on Magic. Put Magic on your grocery list to-day.



MAGIC MOCHA CHIFFON CAKE

2¼ cups sifted cake flour
3 tsps. Magic Baking Powder
1 tsp. salt
1½ cups fine granulated sugar
½ cup salad oil
5 unbeaten egg yolks

¾ cup cold strong coffee
1 tsp. vanilla
3 ounces chilled semi-sweet chocolate, thinly shaved
½ tsp. cream of tartar
1 cup egg whites

Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder, salt and sugar into mixing bowl. Make a well in the centre of flour mixture and add salad oil, egg yolks, coffee and vanilla; mix these liquids a little with mixing spoon, then combine with flour mixture and beat until smooth. Add chocolate and beat to combine (a potato peeler shaves chocolate thinly). Sprinkle cream of tartar over the egg whites and beat until very, very stiff (much stiffer than for a meringue). Gradually fold

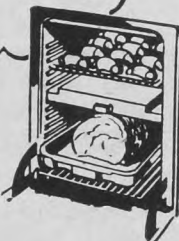
egg-yolk mixture into the egg-white mixture. Turn into ungreased 10" deep tube pan (top inside measure). Bake in rather slow oven, 325°, 1½ to 1¾ hours. Immediately cake is baked, invert pan and allow cake to hang, suspended, until cold. (To "hang" cake, rest tube of inverted pan on a funnel or rest rim of pan on 3 inverted small cups.) Remove cake carefully from pan and cover with a brown-sugar 7-minute frosting in which strong coffee is used in place of the usual water.



Simplify meal-making with the new FRIGIDAIRE "Wonder Oven" Electric Range



LOOK...
IT'S TWO OVENS



You actually have two separate ovens when the movable Divider heating unit is in the center position. But for most of your baking and roasting, you'll use just the upper half of the Wonder Oven — which saves on current.



...NOW
IT'S ONE OVEN!



When you have an unusually large roast or a lot of baking to do, simply move the Divider heating unit to its bottom position. Then you'll have one oven nearly twice as large — big enough to hold a 30-pound turkey!

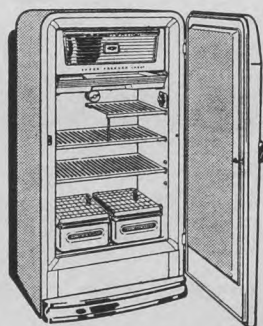
HERE'S THE ELECTRIC RANGE you've been waiting for. A range that gives you the convenience and time-saving features of double-oven cooking — in a single "Wonder Oven"! Yes, in Frigidaire's exclusive "Wonder Oven" you can bake and broil in the same oven at the same time! Roast meat in one oven at one temperature, while baking rolls or potatoes in the other oven at a different temperature. For the "Wonder Oven" can be used as *two* ovens, each with its own heating units and automatic controls — or, in just a few seconds, it becomes one extra-large oven.

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There's a Frigidaire Dealer near you. See him next time you're in town. Or write Frigidaire Products of Canada, Limited, Leaside, Ont.



Toilet Soaps

Price is not always an indication of value

by MARGARET M. SPEECHLY

BECAUSE toilet soap is used many times each day, it is important to get full value for the money invested in it. In any drug store you can find a vast array of different kinds, colors and shapes, but the price charged is not necessarily a measure of the soap's real value.

The main purpose of a toilet soap is to thoroughly cleanse the skin, which is in itself one of the greatest aids to health and beauty. In shopping, your job is to pick out a brand which best suits your skin, at a price that you can afford.

There is little on the package to guide you, but experts agree that a good toilet soap should be mild and neutral (neither acid nor alkaline). It should be made from high-class ingredients (fats, oils and suitable alkalis) and should lather freely.

Lather removes oil, dust and other grime from the skin, breaks up the soil into tiny particles, and with the help of rubbing and water, floats them away leaving the skin clean. That is all any good toilet soap can do.

Independent scientists, after investigating a large variety of brands, report that the most expensive toilet soap they tested was the poorest in quality, while one of the cheaper brands was the most efficient in cleansing the skin.

In order to satisfy the wants of the public, manufacturers turn out a large variety of soap from the same top-quality ingredients. Some of this is sold in the form of plain, unwrapped slabs or bars at a price within reach of the budget-wise.

The same soap-stock can be formed into round or oval cakes and stamped with a name or design. More is charged for this product because extra labor or equipment is needed and there may be trimmings to be remelted.

If the bars are wrapped, the price may be raised (or the size of the cake reduced) because paper and printing cost money, even though the soap is same in quality as unwrapped kinds.

By blowing air into the soap-stock, it can be converted into a floating bath soap. The bubbles of air simply mean that a cake of a given size contains less real soap, and so the cost per pound or ounce runs higher.

Basic ingredients can be molded into shapes such as ducks, animals or golf balls and sold at a price that is much greater than the plainest bars. If a glamorous name or a fancy wrapper is added still more can be charged for the product, even though it will not do a better job of cleansing.

To attract certain people, soap may be specially tinted or scented, and put up in a de-luxe gift box. In fact, in some cases the only difference between an expensive brand and a cheaper one may be the perfume. Now that perfumes can be produced chemically, this may be a very inexpensive item.

Medicated soaps are often made from good materials to which carbolic, tar, sulphur or other special ingredient is added. Some people associate the smell of antiseptics with cleanliness,



FRIGIDAIRE

Home Appliances

Frigidaire reserves the right to change specifications, or discontinue models, without notice.

but actually these soaps possess no mysterious virtue.

In fact, some brands contain such small amounts of the special ingredient, that by the time it is divided among myriads of soap bubbles, the alleged benefits do not amount to much. Experts consider that the routine, day-by-day use of such soaps has accounted for many skin irritations.

If it is necessary to use special medication, it is better to apply it separately on the advice of your doctor, and to rely on a pure toilet soap for cleansing the skin.

Hard water soaps have been developed for use in districts where the minerals make lathering difficult. Soaps made from synthetic materials are now being made and will soon appear on the market. These have their place, but if your water is soft there is no point in buying them, provided you can find other satisfactory products.

In searching for the kind of soap that suits your skin and your purse, ask your druggist what he has to offer. He may suggest castile which for years has been a measure of good value.

The term castile is now used by manufacturers and dealers for any mild, well-made toilet soap. Often it can be obtained in plain, unscented

slabs that may be cut into bars of suitable size by using a heated blade.

THE term "milled" is often used in connection with toilet soaps. Milled soaps usually contain at least 83 per cent soap and not more than 15 per cent moisture. They are thoroughly processed, the cakes being firmly pressed or milled to make the surface dense and hard. Because of this, milled soap lasts longer.

Of course any soap will soften and go to waste if allowed to remain in water or to stand in a dish that does not provide drainage. Check your soap holders if you wish to reduce costs.

The old method of buying soap in quantity is a real economy as it allows for thorough drying, but whether this is feasible in your case, only you can decide. Some people buy in small amounts because they do not wish to tie up their money in bulk purchases, or because some members of the family use the product too freely when there is plenty.

In any case, save every bit of soap until you get enough to melt down. Or put the slivers into a bath mitt. Some people prefer to press the remainder of one bar onto the new one. Remember that the cost of keeping clean is influenced not only by what the dealer charges, but on how long you make the product last.

As you shop, view with suspicion any soap that is highly colored since the color may have been used to cover up low-grade ingredients. The same is true of strong perfumes.

Steer clear of fancy shapes, glamorous packaging, exotic perfumes and brands for which extravagant claims are made, if you are anxious to find at a suitable price a toilet soap that cleans well without irritating your skin.

New House

Continued from page 47

benefit by the experience. Recently she graduated from the University of Manitoba, completing a course in Interior Design.

In addition to her homemaking work and hobby-craft Wyn finds time for participation in community affairs. She is a member of the Women's Institute and a director on the Fair Board for the town of Dugald. Any one who has ever had any experience with country fairs knows what a large order that can be.

The inscription on the front-door chromium knocker typifies the grace and hospitality of the Van Slyck home—

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Has always room for friends and
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She hangs the cleanest wash in town—
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NEW *Tide* GETS CLOTHES CLEANER THAN ANY SOAP!

NEW STEPPED-UP WASHING POWER!

EVERY GRAIN of new Heavyweight Tide does more work—gets clothes *cleaner*. Just try it in your washing machine. Wring out your clothes, rinse them . . . and, lady, you'll hang up a *cleaner* wash than you'll get with *any* soap—or any other washing product sold in all Canada!

WHITER, TOO! In hardest water, new Tide will wash your shirts, sheets, curtains *whiter* than any soap you can name! There's *nothing* like new Tide!

AND BRIGHTER! Just wait till you see how your soap-dulled colors *glow* after a Tide wash. Your wash prints look so crisp and fresh . . . the fabric feels so soft . . . irons so *beautifully*. Get new Tide today—and hang the *cleanest* wash in town on your line.



P.S. PREFER TO SKIP RINSING?

Go ahead! Just wash, wring out, hang up. Now Tide will give you the cleanest possible no-rinse wash!



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Before you buy your new SINGER* Sewing Machine, apply the same rule of thumb your husband uses to guide his farm equipment buying.

Is this a *worthwhile* piece of equipment? Will it *really* pay its way, year in, year out?



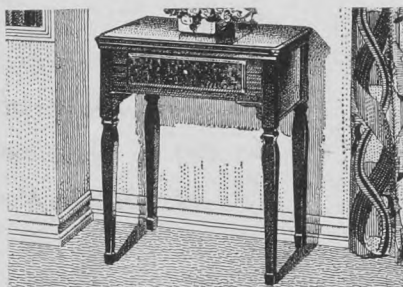
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Gifts To Make

Toys to make for small people

by FLORENCE WEBB

Santa Claus



Pattern No. K-76

No need to tell you who this is. He's just as jolly as ever and just as much fun to own. He is knitted of wool, red for his suit of course, and white for the trimmings. His shoes and mittens are black. He can also be used as a Christmas table decoration or to sit on the mantel shelf on a mound of artificial snow. Pattern is No. K-76, price 25 cents.

'Sammy'-- Panda Bear



Design No. K-79

Here is an idea to use up those scraps of yarn, and at the same time to delight some tiny tot. Sammy, the Panda Bear, is his name and the pattern we send you gives directions for knitting him. If you prefer you can use one color for his legs, another for his arms, a third for his ears and a fourth for his body. Our model was black and white and about 12 inches tall when finished. Pattern is No. K-79, price 25 cents.

Address orders to The Country Guide Needlework Department, Winnipeg, Man.

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to relieve coughs—aching muscles

"Whenever my child gets a cold—I immediately rub her chest, throat and back with

Child's Mild Musterole—made especially for young kiddies' tender skin. "It's such a comfort how Musterole brings fast, long-lasting relief from aching chest colds—how it starts right in to help break up congestion in bronchial tubes, nose and throat. It's really hard to beat!"

P.S. There's also Regular and Extra-Strong Musterole for adults.

The Lantern

Continued from page 12

By all means cut it down if it will bring the boy some magic."

So the magic lantern came a few days before my birthday. Every spare hour I spent showing myself scenes from a large box of picture postcards I had collected.

I WALKED the streets of Paris with the great and the lowly. I strolled New York with murderers and millionaires. I sailed the seas, and I climbed snow-crowned mountains. I visited jungles and spied on tigers and orchids, and I rode great roaring trains. It was all bright and wonderful and, indeed, magic.

I could scarcely wait until my birthday to show the machine to my friends and especially to Sally. How could she resist me after such a glimpse of beauty? She would see instantly that Egbert was a dull donkey, lacking in any sense of poetry or romance.

The great night arrived and I, dressed in my shining best, displayed my magic lantern to Sally and Egbert and some other friends. To my mind it was a triumphant show. It began with a view of our own splendid Parliament Buildings and went on through France and Germany and Africa and America and finally ended with a colorful card bearing the Union Jack.

When it was all finished the lights were turned up and we had ice cream and cake served by Maman. I felt very happy. I was the producer of this great spectacle, and surely Mlle. Sally must be secretly yearning for my private company.

I was sure of it when she said she would gladly permit me to accompany her home. Egbert whispered that she did so because he had no umbrella and it was raining, but I naturally refused to believe such nonsense.

Sally and I walked briskly to her house through mud puddles and rain. Mostly we walked in silence. Now and then I remarked:



"Pa said if you're going to wait up for your old man, you might as well make a couple of bucks sitting with me while they're at a movie."

"Very wet, no?"

"Very," Sally agreed.

It was not that I did not feel equal to the situation. It was merely that I was so overcome at the thought of kissing Sally, of feeling my arms around her, of seeing the brightness in her eyes, that I could not keep my heart from bobbing up into my throat.

Still, in spite of my remark about the weather, it was not raining for me. The stars in my heart shone with diamond brightness and the moon sang.

At length we reached Sally's house. We paused in the walk and looked at each other. Sally smiled faintly.

"Thank you very much," she said. My heart bounded like a tennis ball. I held the umbrella closer to her.

"Uh . . ." I began.

"What? My! It's raining much harder now. Hadn't you better run along?"

I edged closer. "Uh . . ."

"Yes?"

"You liked the lantern of magic?"

"Yes. A little."

"Only a little?" I said sadly. "It was for you I got it."

Sally flickered her long lashes and looked away. Her face was bright and shining, wet with rain.

"I liked it all right," she said.

"You recall the new suit I was to get? Well, instead I got the lantern. I will wear now a suit of Papa's."

Sally smiled without mirth.

"You did? Hmmm. And the way you kept telling me about the suit. I mean, I thought we could go out some places, me in a new dress, you in new long pants."

"They would not be long anyway, I guess."

"They might have been," Sally said a little angrily. "Instead, you picked out the silly old magic lantern. I bet that's what you really wanted. You didn't care what I wanted."

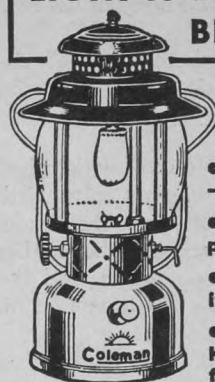
The stars retired. The moon ceased to sing. My heart no longer bounded. Magic lantern? The magic was gone. Or almost.

A sharp pain came to the center of my stomach and my head ached with sadness.

I tried with one arm to hold Sally closer, and I bent eagerly to kiss her

55

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and wipe out my pain. Alas, the umbrella banged against her forehead, knocking her hat onto the ground in the rain. We bumped noses as we bent to pick it up.

"I think I had better go in," she said coldly. She picked up the hat and ran swiftly into the house.

SO the magic lantern, which had lost its magic, was put away with the old lamp shades and the school books of other years and the clothes which were worn no longer and the suitcases and trunks for travelling on some far-off day.

It was forgotten, that lantern, on the screen of my mind, and the years

were like the swift, colored slides had been, though nowhere near as bright and exciting.

In time I finished college, having seen less and less of Sally in the years between. I prepared now to go to the States to take a position in a bank in New York.

I had, of course, not ceased to care for Sally. I had resigned myself, merely, to whatever strange processes in the universe conspire to cover with icy rain the soft dreaming garden of youthful springtime.

As with the lantern, the magic had gone, the colors faded, the focus blurred. The scene, one might say, had changed.

I was at least grateful to be finished school and happy in a melancholy manner that I was able to support myself. I was, in short, glad to be grown-up, healthy and fairly well educated.

It would be foolish to affirm that this was enough. There was something missing.

These thoughts were even sharper in my mind than usual, for I had written Sally a brief, sentimental, friendly note, telling her I was going and saying a gentle, reluctant adieu. I had not suggested that she come and say good-bye or that she invite me for a farewell chat. In consequence I was left with merely a vague, faintly warm

stirring of hope in my heart . . . as if through the shining, melting snow of very late spring the first shoot of a violet danced its small determined way, an almost laughable tiny promise.

It was then I came across the lantern, dusty and lorn. I smiled at the black object there in the ancient debris. Since it had been of little use I picked it up and rubbed it shiny with a cloth, thinking to sell it and add to my slim bank account.

I turned around at the sound of some soft sudden footsteps.

It was Sally at the doorway of the cellar, peeking into the darkness from the light of the yellow-green spring outside. (Please turn to page 58)



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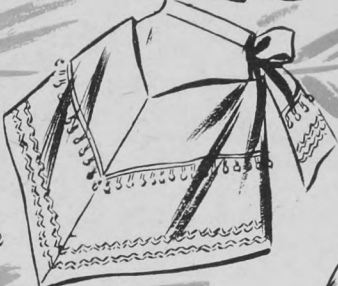
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3718



3718



2538



3719



3025



1961



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3715



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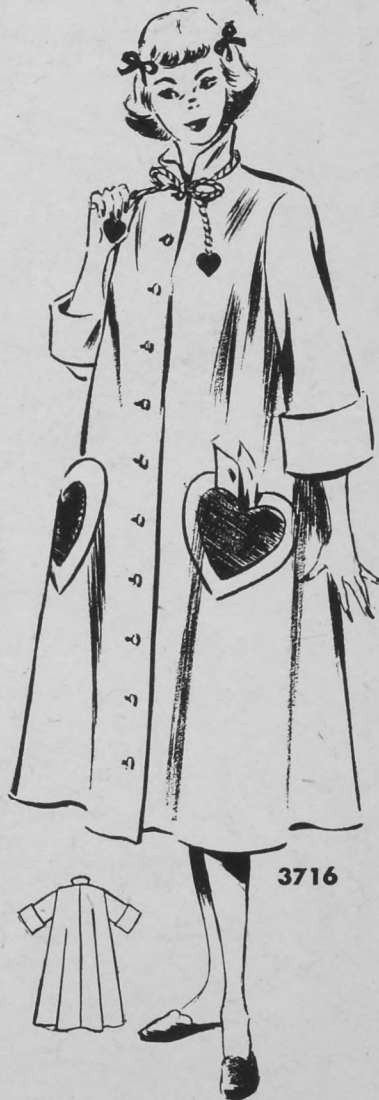
No. 1961—For dad a sport shirt. Long or short sleeves; choice of pocket styles. Sizes small, medium and large. Medium requires $2\frac{5}{8}$ yards 39-inch or $1\frac{1}{8}$ yards 54-inch plaid or plain fabric. Price 25 cents.

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No. 3719—A nightgown, slip and panties set for big sister. Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 nightgown requires $3\frac{3}{8}$ yards 35-inch, slip $2\frac{1}{4}$ yards and panties $1\frac{1}{8}$ yards. Price 35 cents.

No. 3716—For the teen-ager an extra special duster-housecoat. Sizes 10, 12, 14 and 16 years. Size 14 requires $4\frac{1}{8}$ yards 39-inch fabric; $\frac{3}{8}$ yard contrast. Price 35 cents.

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She came in, smiling as the sunshine. "So, you are going to New York? How nice! Still, it seems so far. Will you find violets there? And rainbows and boulevards and beautiful women and great snow-capped mountains?"

She was looking at the lantern and so was I. I was about to remind her of the days when I had bought it and of the hope that had gone with the purchase. I almost explained to her that it was my deep desire for her soft warm youthful kiss that had caused me to buy the lantern—the lantern that had brought me, mockingly, bright vistas of far-off dream places, but no caress. Then I changed my mind, for a thought came to me as quietly and swiftly as a small golden fish gliding through deep waters.

"Would you like to see the lantern work again? It has not been shown since the days when you said you wished I had a new suit with long pants. I now have the suit, by the way."

Sally laughed and blushed a little. Then she looked very solemn, like a small bird on a grey day.

"I'd love to," she replied quietly.

So once again we walked the shining streets of Paris and sailed the dark blue tossing seas and climbed the highest snow-capped mountains.

Her hand reached for mine and I held it, warm and soft, and thus it was, hand-in-hand, that we spied on bright tigers and rare orchids and

splendid colored birds. It was all gleaming and wonderful and, indeed, magic.

WHEN I turned on the lights of reality again there were small tears in the eyes of Sally, like the gentle first drops of a springtime shower.

"I'm sorry," she said gently.

"About what?" I asked kindly.

"About the years that have gone so swiftly between us."

I smiled. "All of us are sorry about the years that pass, except, of course, the very young, who are immortal. Yet, for us, there is still much time to laugh and sing and hunt tigers and orchids and birds of paradise. Or at least to hunt some shining golden thing not yet with a name."

Sally looked at me, slightly puzzled.

"Wait. Something strange has happened. You . . . you left out some of the pictures."

"The ones of New York?"

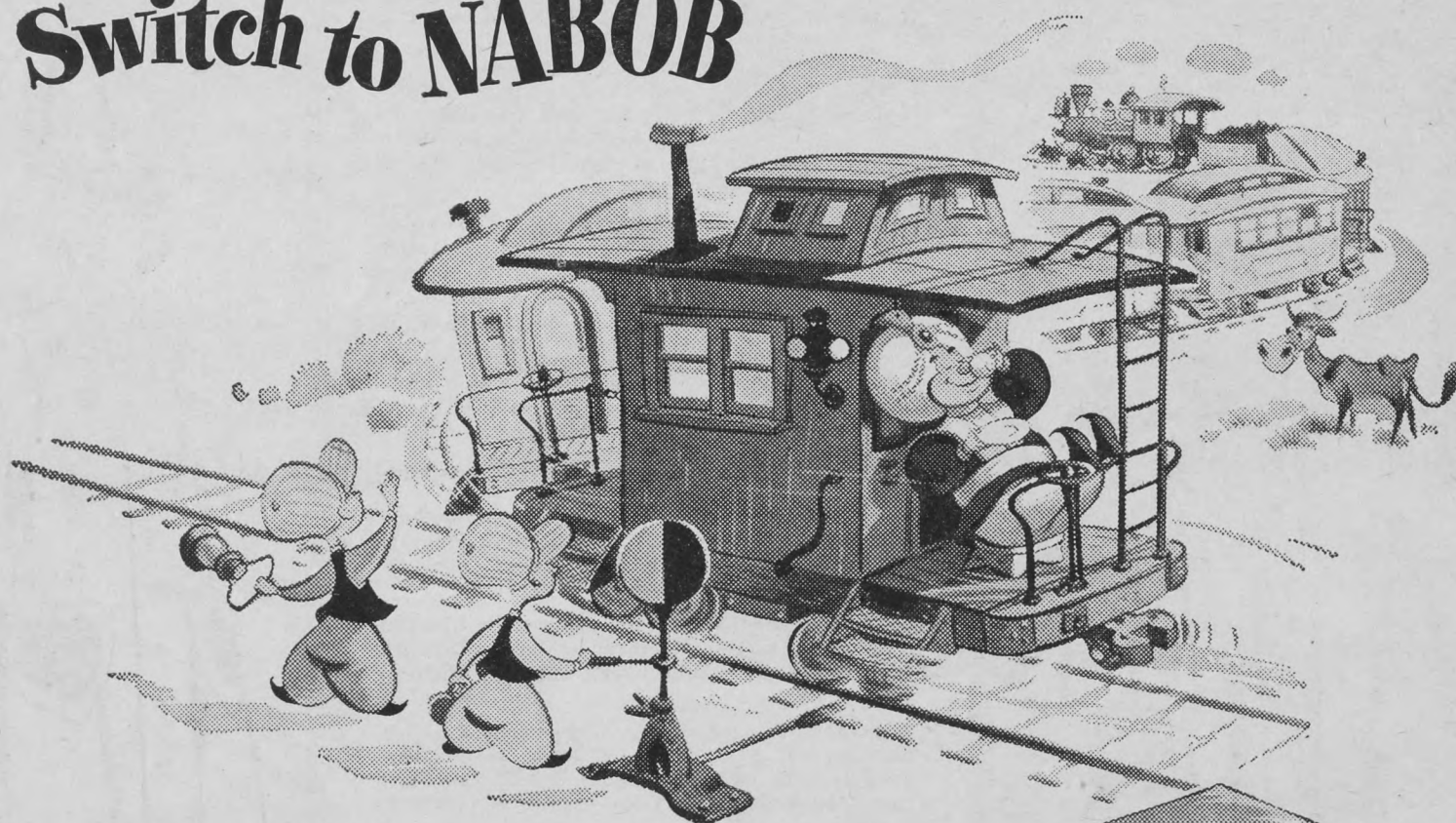
"Yes."

Her face was raised toward mine, and I kissed her as gently as the tears that had flowed down her soft cheeks, and then I kissed her again as hard as my dreams had been. "The New York pictures we do not need," I said afterward.

"And why not?" she asked, her eyes expecting sadness.

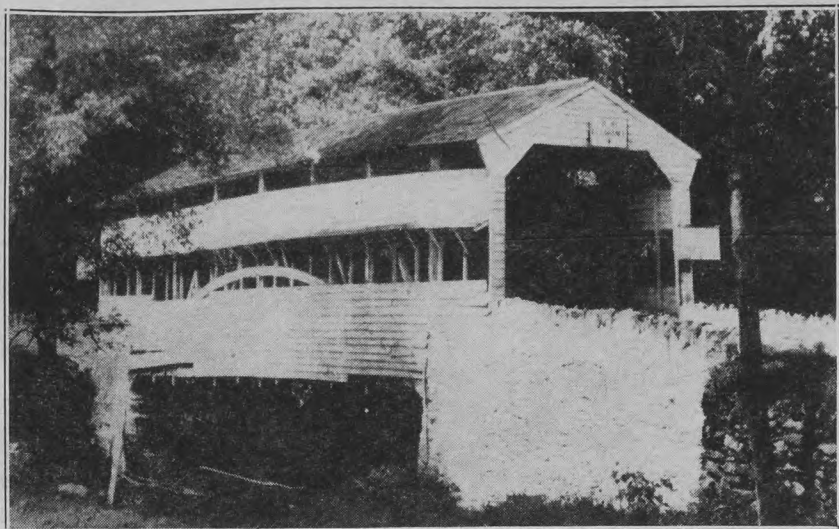
"Because the wonders of New York we will see without the aid of the lantern. We will have our own magic!"

Switch to NABOB



"Tea as it should be."





A covered bridge at Valley Forge, noted American historic site.

Covered Bridges

When lumber was cheap wooden bridges were common and it was natural to protect them from the ravages of weather by roofing them in. They are now fast disappearing, however

by PAUL HADLEY

WE have all seen pictures of the old-fashioned covered bridges in books, on calendars, and photographic exhibitions. It is quite possible that the reader may have seen one or more of these architectural oddities, for despite the fact that many thousands of them have been demolished during the first half of this century, there still remain several hundreds of them in the United States and eastern Canada. Ohio has the most of the old covered bridges, with Pennsylvania ranking a close second. New Brunswick folk treasure some long ones in their province spanning the St. John River. No exact figures can be given as to how many remain, for more and more of them are being replaced each year with modern structures, designed to meet the needs of present-day traffic.

Most of us have become used to the idea that these covered bridges are a typically North American structure. But this is not so—the unusual bridges have been known since Bible times. The first covered bridge of which we have any record was built in the year of 783 B.C., over the Euphrates River in Babylon. Of course, no remains of this structure now exist. The oldest remaining bridge of this type which exists today was built in the year 1333 over the Reuss, at Lucerne, Switzerland.

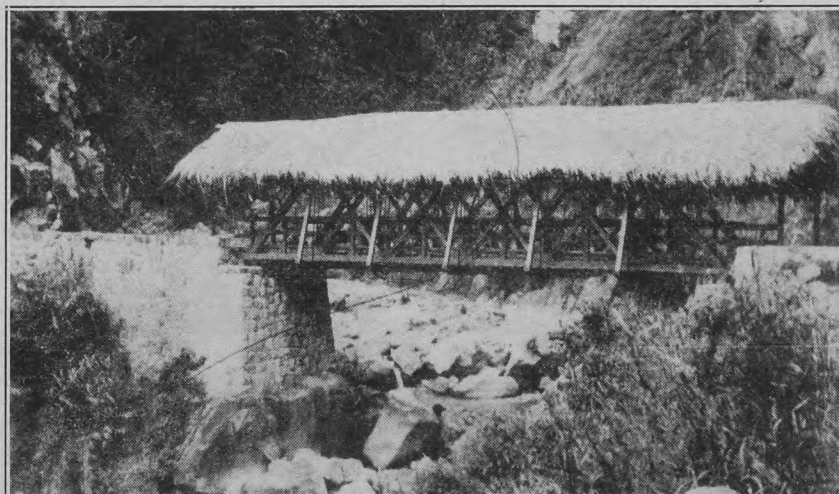
Covered bridges were used in most of the European countries at some time, and this type of architecture was brought to us from Europe.

The covered bridge is known in the Philippine Islands, where thatched-covered bridges span some of the mountain gorges. Like those of other countries, the "roof" over the bridge was designed to protect the wooden structure from rain and other ravages of the weather. It was much easier to replace a roof that might become rotted from damp climate than to replace the entire bridge.

Just where the first covered bridge was built in America is uncertain. But one of the first to be constructed was the Enoch Hale bridge at Bellows Falls, Vermont, which was built in 1786. Soon afterwards, other covered bridges were built in various parts of the eastern states, and the later ones gradually were built farther and farther west.

The longest covered bridge in the world was built in Canada, and its length was over 1,200 feet, a quarter of a mile. But most of them were built to span narrower streams, for the added weight of the wooden walls and roof created much strain upon the supports of too-long spans. The old bridges were made entirely of wood, and considering the perishability of this material, it is remarkable that so many of them remain today in such good repair.

But they will soon be gone—the same as the rail fence, the log cabin, the old water mill, and the hitching rack. Those of us who are lucky enough to live near one now will live to see them but a memory.



A covered bridge at Bontoc in the Philippines.

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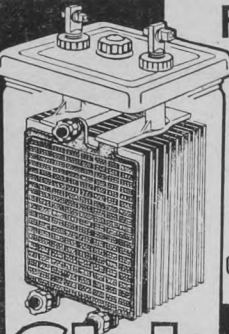
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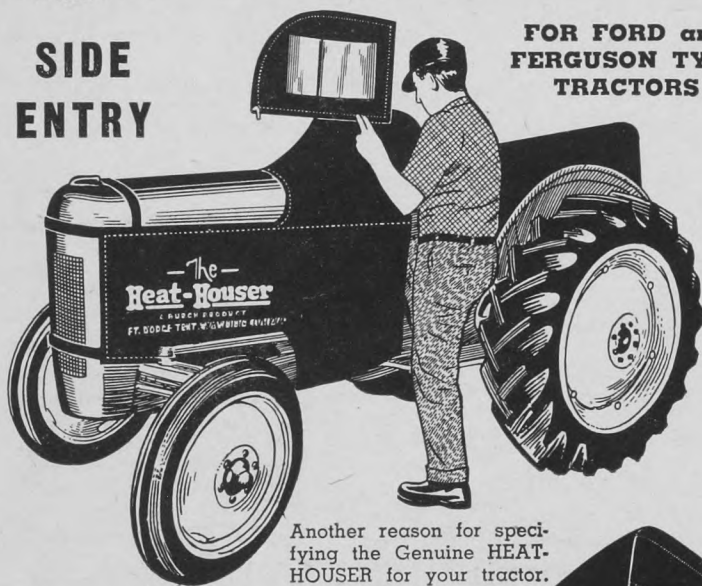
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Mrs. John Dexter outside the brooder house with her turkey poults.

Laurel Farm

Continued from page 10

as one finds at Meskanaw, it is not practical to try to crop all the land. Of the 2,880 acres under control about 2,300 is under crop, and not much more bush land will be broken.

Even after the retirement of the older Chapman there is no shortage of labor. Each of the partners can take two-week holidays in the summer and very much longer ones in the winter. More than that, Laurel Farm's labor margin allows it to do a little experimenting. It is growing registered Thatcher and can afford labor for the exacting work of elite seed production. Encouraged by the University, it went into the growing of Argentine rape, at first experimentally, but now on a big scale. In 1949 it grew 320 acres of it, off which it harvested 1,600 bushels sold at six cents a pound. Last summer it stepped up the acreage of this crop to 400, but it is prepared to take a drop in price. New experimental work has to do with safflower, an oil-bearing seed which has come into some prominence in North Dakota.

MANAGEMENT at Laurel Farm is by committees of which there are eight: livestock, seed, field crops, horticulture, fire prevention, municipal affairs, housing and playground. Policy is initiated in committee and decided by a meeting of the whole membership. Over the whole body is an annually elected president, assisted by a secretary. The top office is passed around. The secretary's job tends to become permanent for the sake of con-

tinuity. Currently, Bill, the youngest, is president, and Earl Chapman, another agricultural college graduate, is secretary.

Even the farm wives are worked into the organization. Mrs. Jack Chapman looks after the hens. Mrs. John Dexter became the guardian of 100 turkey poults last spring, and Mrs. Reid shares with Mrs. Earl Chapman responsibility for the milk and butter.

Family life is more closely affected by the co-operative nature of the organization than this, however. Benefiting by the experience of '43 and '44, the members moved their dwellings to the fine Dexter site, or tore down their old buildings and rebuilt there. It gives them many of the advantages of town life. There is no baby sitting problem now. They may go to church en masse, with the exception of the family whose turn it is to remain on guard. It is satisfying in many more intimate ways. "A gets a Toni from B today, and B gets one from C next Thursday," as one of the wives jokingly remarked.

The larger farm unit permits this group to buy implements which would not be economical on ordinary farms. To mention two only: a power paint sprayer and a power garden cultivator. The latter works the tree plantations and the joint potato crop, beside being available to all members for cultivating their private gardens which supply their vegetable requirements other than spuds.

Another angle may be seen in the choice of tractors. Said one of the co-operators, "If each of us had been working on his own we would prob-



The 64 x 32-foot aluminum workshop on Laurel Farm. The center doors are for tractors and the outside ones for cars, trucks and smaller implements.

ably all be using small gas tractors. As it is, centralization has justified the purchase of one large, economical Deisel tractor which already has a record of 2,800 hours field work to its credit, plus small tractors, of course."

It also permits the purchase of a number of important supplies at quantity discounts. There is the case of gas and oil. The central farm site possesses a large underground gas tank with a service pump. In addition, there are two mobile storage tanks for field use. Liquid fuel can therefore be purchased in complete truckloads from the distributor.

Further advantage from co-operative organization lies in the application of income tax regulations. At the suggestion of the income tax office itself, the by-laws of Laurel Farm were amended to provide for a definite rate of interest on invested capital. Interest can now be considered an operating expense and therefore exempt.

Such are the main features of Laurel Farm. It is not unique because there are 12 other farms in Saskatchewan formed by the consolidation of previously existing farm units. Probably there would be more if the plan were more widely known.

CO-OPERATIVE farms, like this one at Meskanaw, are much to be preferred to another type of agricultural enterprise—the corporation farm—which threatens to spread on the

prairies to meet changing economic conditions. The corporation farm is completely anti-social. It represents the concentration of capital in fewer hands. It adopts crop rotations which allow it to shut up shop for the winter and set its hired workers adrift. The fruits of this policy are on one hand a complete disregard of soil conservation needs, and on the other hand it denudes the rural scene of farm families and increases the costs of schools and every other public service. The co-operative farm preserves the best in rural family life, and by permitting economies, probably in the long run maintains a denser farm population.

Take a look at the part Laurel Farm is playing in its own local and provincial setting. Jack Chapman is an official of the Saskatchewan Farmers' Union and the Kinistino co-op, a trading company. Earl and Charlie are both mixed up with the provincial seed growers co-op. Irving Reid is a local school trustee. Bill Chapman is the local Sunday school superintendent.

It will be said that Laurel Farm owes its success to family bonds which would hold it together through vicissitudes which would wreck other groups not so cemented. That may or may not be true. Certainly every individual in the world is not temperamentally fitted for co-operative partnership. The dyed-in-the-wool exponents of the philosophy of every-

man-for-himself and devil-take-the-hindmost wouldn't enter into such a relationship if they could, and the organization which was so stupid as to admit them would come to grief. Let no man fool himself in the belief that this fair Canada, or even its farms, are overrun with genuine co-operators. There are many wolves in cheap clothing.

Every year there are said to be approximately 4,000 Saskatchewan farms thrown on the real estate market. Many of them are sold by people too old to continue farming, but with no heirs. There must be many times that number of farmers faced with the same problem that W. L. Chapman had five years ago, of establishing a family of farm-bred sons who want to remain on the farm. If the co-operative farm idea did no more than bring these two groups of people together, it would serve a good purpose.

There are some who believe, however, that the co-operative farm idea is capable of much wider employment in areas of established farms. Evidence on this point is accumulating. The Matador Co-operative Farm, and the various other veterans' co-operative units which followed in its wake, are demonstration farms in a very valuable sense. If they can ride through the winds of good and ill fortune alike, the economic arguments in favor of larger co-operative farms will get a more attentive ear.

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Cornell University, New York, comments on the last five years as a distinctive Golden Age for U.S. agriculture

"DOWN through history there have been many periods designated as Golden Ages for Agriculture. There have been few, if any, however, which even approximate that of the last five years."

In this fashion, the Department of Agricultural Economics of the New York State College of Agriculture, Cornell University, begins a commentary on the relatively increased prosperity which has come to rural America during the last decade and particularly since the close of World War II. The New York economists direct their attention especially to the increased farm production which has accompanied the postwar period; and farmers in western Canada will undoubtedly be interested in their summary of the situation which follows:

"To be sure . . . (The Golden Age) . . . has not touched every farm family equally but, looking at the broader panorama, these years have brought opportunity, dignity and heightened self-respect to rural America. Such a period is one to be savored to the full by farmer folk, to be felt, visualized and described. Rare, indeed, are the times when so many favorable influences come together in the combination like that which made the last five years a distinctive golden age.

"Of course, the beneficial results have reached only the productive commercial family farmers. About half of the rural properties classified as commercial farms produce about 90 per cent of the food, fibre and tobacco for 150 million people. The other half, mainly subsistence farmers, produce the remaining tenth. The golden era has passed by the subsistence farm families. Science, power and machines in agriculture require commercial production. High prices have no meaning to those who have little or nothing to sell.

"The Number One requirement of an agricultural golden age is moderately rising prices. American agriculture has recently been going through that pleasant experience. During the five years, 1946-50, farm prices averaged about two and one-half times the prewar level. The flexible prices of farm products rose more rapidly than the sticky prices of articles farmers buy.

"A second criterion is that farm property values shall rise without a proportional increase in the total debt. In this respect, the recent experience of farmers has been unusually pleasant.

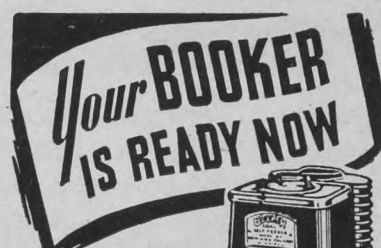
"Another important characterization of a golden era is that increasing amounts of crops, livestock and livestock products shall be produced per unit of human labor. During the late 40's, the average farm worker stepped up his acreage of crops cultivated by about ten per cent, produced 30 per cent more crop tonnage and 33 per cent more livestock and livestock products. Farmers produced 90 per cent more corn per hour of labor than during the late 30's. Wheat was a close second, with 80 per cent more output per hour. With cotton and hay, the increases were 20 per cent. The dozens of eggs and pounds of milk

produced per hour were higher by 30 and 40 per cent. More spectacular, of course, were the increases on individual farms. It is not uncommon to find New York dairy and poultry farms on which milk and egg production per hour of labor were about doubled.

"A further contributing factor to the farmers' Horn of Plenty has been the phenomenal 20 per cent increase in crop yields, with a remarkable uniformity in the rates of increase for different crops. Yields per acre of the four great feed grains, corn, oats, barley and grain sorghums, increased 22 per cent. Even vegetable yields were up 20 per cent. The percentage increases in the yields per acre of seven groups of crops were as follows: four food grains, 25 per cent; four feed grains, 22; 11 vegetables for processing, 18; 25 vegetables for fresh market, 22; ten fruits, 13; four sugars, seven; roughages, seven; 28 crops, 20.

"More spectacular, of course, were the root crops which increased over 50 per cent. Even roughage yields, which had declined persistently for three decades, increased seven per cent and were at the highest level in statistical history. Equally important were the increases in milk, pork and egg production per cow, per sow and per hen, 15 to 30 per cent. These increases in crop and livestock yields were the result of many factors: fertilizers, lime, fungicides, insecticides, farm machinery, improved seeds, better feeding, improved breeding, the weatherman, and still other factors.

"Increasing efficiency of human labor and rising yields are jointly related. The substitution of tractors for horses well illustrates the point. The number of tractors per worker trebled and the number of horses was halved. This change had many desir-



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able effects simultaneously on efficiency and yields. It is possible to put lights on a tractor and work around the clock—but not with a horse. This substitution meant more efficient use of labor, better preparation of seed beds, more uniform planting, better tillage and weed control, and more rapid harvest. Greater timeliness, such as was made possible in every one of these activities, is the essence of good yields. During late wet springs, crops could go in much more rapidly and uniformly when the land was finally in condition. Cultivation could be more frequent and timely, thus reducing the weed hazard, and crops were less likely to be cut off by frost at the end of the growing season. The tractor has also played an important role in harvesting efficiency. In dry areas of the West, farmers frequently begin haying after the dew has fallen in the evening, in order to reduce shattering, and then bale alfalfa all night. Likewise, tractors have reduced losses in grain harvesting. History tells us that gleaners characteristically followed the sickle. There was less shattering with the cradle, even less with the reaper, and still less with the binder. It would have been futile for Ruth to have gleaned the field, had Boaz' barley been harvested with a combine.

"In some parts of the United States, it is too hot from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for horses and men to work in the field.

This does not deter the farmer with a big umbrella on his tractor.

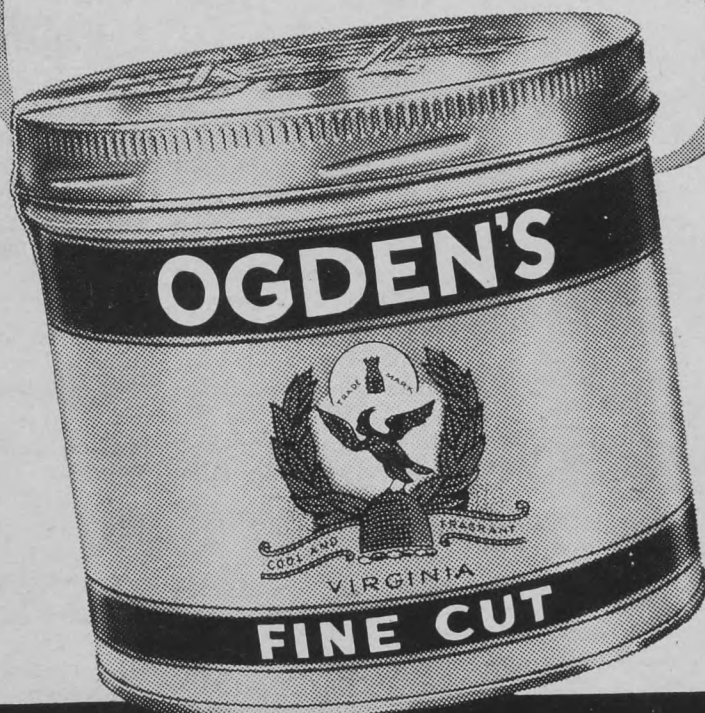
"In many parts of the United States, there has been a transformation in the use of land. More corn and spring grains have replaced buckwheat or other catch crops, because with the tractor, more land could be fitted quickly for spring planting.

"The romance of the changes in farm practices by the substitution of the tractor for horses would be a fascinating story in itself. The net result of all these improvements has been increasing yields of higher quality crops with decreasing amounts of labor. It would have been impossible to speed up the efficiency of seed-bed preparation without increasing yields. It would have been impossible to speed up efficiency in harvesting without increasing yields and improving crop quality.

"While the number of tractors per farm worker trebled during the period under review, the implements to use with tractors more than quadrupled. This greatly increased the flexibility of tractor power, speeded up the efficiency of labor, and took more drudgery out of farm work. Hay balers and conveyors, corn pickers and milking machines are cases in point. Man has not changed, but the machines have, and have lengthened the arm and strengthened the hand of the farmer."

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The Country



THOUGHTS of Christmas are in the air these crisp November days. Every boy and girl likes to give gifts to his family and friends, and gifts you make yourself will especially please them. Here are ideas for gifts you can easily make—a gift for Mother and a gift for small brother or sister.

Those old felt hats up in the attic will make fine sets of potholders. Brush the felt so that it is clean and bright. Now cut out a square or circle about six inches across, then cut points or scallops all around the edge.

Sew a small loop of narrow ribbon or a loop of twisted string to the potholder so that it can be hung up. You could cut out designs of different colored felt and paste them to the potholders to decorate them.

Any small boy or girl will have lots of fun with a finger jigger made from a picture cut from an old magazine and pasted on cardboard. Cut off the picture as shown in the diagram and draw two holes at the bottom (trace around a penny or dime to get the size). Your funny man will jump, walk or dance when you move your fingers up and down.

Ann Sankey



ALICE

by Mary Grannan

IT was breakfast time at Valley View farm. Jimmy Dunlop, who lived at Valley View, thought it the nicest time of the day. "It's when the morning wakes up," Jimmy said, "and when I wake up, too. And it's the time Alice moos for me. All the cows have the same kind of moos and yet I can tell Alice's moo from all the others. I guess it's because she's my cow."

Mrs. Dunlop shook her head, as she smiled. She said, "Alice isn't really your cow . . . that is your very own cow. She belongs to your father."

"Oh, well, that's the same thing," said Jimmy.

"Not exactly," said Mrs. Dunlop. "You know, dear, that we run this farm to make money, don't you?"

"Oh, yes, I know that," said Jimmy.

"And you know too, that we raise our cows to sell. Last night a man came to buy a good milch cow. He liked Alice. He is coming back again tonight to take another look at her."

Tears welled up in Jimmy's eyes. "Oh no, Mum. We can't sell Alice. She's my very special friend. I milk Alice. She talks to me when I milk her. She's the only cow in the herd who talks to me."

"Now, Jimmy, no tears. You have your dog, you know. Bumps is a good friend of yours, too, isn't he?"

"Yes, and the three of us talk together. Mum, Bumps will be sad, too, if we sell Alice."

Mrs. Dunlop sighed, as she told Jimmy that he should never get too attached to any animal on the farm. "But don't worry until the time comes," she said. "It might be that the man will choose some other cow."

At that moment, Mr. Dunlop came into the kitchen. "Darling," he said to his wife. "I've just heard that there's a burglar loose in this district. You'd better lock the doors, just in case he comes to the house looking for food."

Jimmy and Mrs. Dunlop began to ask questions, and Mr. Dunlop laughed and said, "Wait, wait, one at a time. I'll tell you all I know. Last night three burglars broke into the City Bank. The burglar alarm went off, and two of them were caught before they could escape. The third one got away, and he was the one who

had the money. He was carrying a briefcase with \$35,000."

Mrs. Dunlop promised to keep the doors locked, and Jimmy followed his father from the house to the barn. On the way, Jimmy spoke of Alice. "Please, Daddy, don't sell Alice."

"I'm afraid I can't make any such promise, Jimmy. You know, as well as I do, that I've got a business in this farm, and we can't be sentimental about it," said Mr. Dunlop. "Now you go ahead with the milking. I want to tell the farmhands to keep an eye out for the burglar."

Jimmy went into the barn. Bumps, his little dog, was at his heels, and was barking noisily. "Down, Bumps, down," said Jimmy. "I'm sorry, but I don't feel like playing. Daddy is going to sell Alice."

Alice heard and moored sadly. "Please don't blame me, Alice. It's not my fault. But, as Mum says, don't worry until the time comes. He may not buy you. He may choose another cow." Jimmy placed his milking pail and sat down on the milking stool.

He began his milking. But no milk came. "Alice," said Jimmy, "you've been milked, haven't you?"

"Moo," answered Alice, which meant "yes." Bumps seemed to understand, because he began tugging at Jimmy's overalls again. Jimmy's face brightened.

"Now I know why you're barking, Bumps," he said. "You've seen the burglar, haven't you?"

"Wow wow," said Bumps.

"Take me to him, Bumps. Find the burglar for me," Jimmy said, and then he turned to Alice. "Alice, you're coming, too. I'm going to need you."

The little boy led the cow from her stall, and they went into the barnyard. Bumps dashed across the adjoining meadow to a thick clump of pine trees by the line fence.

"Sic him, Bumps, sic him," Jimmy cried, running now as fast as his legs could carry him. Bumps leaped into the pine grove. In a few minutes Jimmy heard the angry cries of a man.

"Call off your dog," he screamed at Jimmy. "Call off your dog."

"Yes, sir," said Jimmy. "I'll call off my dog, and I'll sic my cow. Alice, go get that man. Bumps, you run for Daddy."

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Boy and Girl

In another few minutes, Mr. Dunlop and five of his farmhands came racing across the meadow. They were just in time to see Alice toss the thief out into the open. A brown bag which he held in his hands fell into a clump of skunk cabbage. Alice lunged again, but Mr. Dunlop said, "No, Alice, no. That's enough."

The burglar was taken to the city. When Mr. Dunlop returned that evening he said to his little son, "Well, Jimmy, you did a fine day's work. There was a reward of \$1,000 for the capture of that burglar."

Jimmy gasped. "Dad," he said, "is \$1,000 enough money to buy Alice?"

"More than enough," said Mr. Dunlop.

"Then will you sell her to me please?" said the little boy.

"No," said Mr. Dunlop. Jimmy's face fell. His father laughed. "I'm going to give her to you, Jimmy. Any boy who is as brave, and as quick thinking as you are, deserves a cow."

"Oh thank you, Daddy," said Jimmy. "But Alice isn't just a cow . . . she . . . she's Alice."

Birds of the Prairies

HANDSOME clown—that's a good name for a bluejay for these birds always seem to be having all kinds of fun. They are noisy, they chase other small birds away from food and when two or three bluejays find an owl they raise a terrible fuss—but that's all there is to it. Bluejays even like to imitate the calls of other birds. But bluejays don't stop at a little

fun. Unfortunately, they rob other birds' nests both of their eggs and young. That is why other birds raise a great outcry whenever a jay comes near their nest. When you step into the woods, bluejays are sure to announce your coming in loud, shrill tones, that is unless they are nesting, for then both birds are very quiet indeed. In the thick woods they build their sturdy



nest of twigs and line it with feathers and grass. They lay from three to six eggs of a greenish color with brown

spots. The baby birds look like their parents except that they have very short tails, not the fine, long, well-shaped tail of the adult bluejay.

Bluejays are good tree planters, for the nuts and acorns that they cannot eat, they bury in the ground. Some of these nuts grow to be trees.

Directions for coloring the bluejay: black collar beginning on chest and continuing up the side of the head behind crest. Crest, hindneck, back, shoulders and continuing to the tail, greyish violet blue. Tail feathers, azure blue, crossed with lines of black and with a wide border of white on the sides (as you see marked off in the drawing). Wings, azure blue with lines of black and broad rows of white, then a black tip. Breast and sides, smoke grey; underparts, white. Beak and feet are black.—A. T.



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VOL. LXX WINNIPEG, NOVEMBER, 1951 No. 11

The Royal Visit

The royal couple have come and gone. The much anticipated event was marked throughout by the most vociferous welcome which, we are sure, our guests understood and appreciate, even though our demands on their endurance were so heartless.

From a Canadian viewpoint it was a gratifying success. It united Canadians of every stripe in spontaneous demonstrations of loyalty and affection. Americans who cannot comprehend our acceptance of, let alone our fondness for, a titled ruler motored here by the thousands and were caught up in the infectious outpouring of devotion to the young woman who will one day be queen. We think it must have had a sobering effect on those Canadians who, while not professing Communists, give ear to their subversive doctrines. The popular enthusiasm must have revealed to them a cementing force within this nation the strength of which had escaped their notice.

Canadians are not royalists in the same sense as the British, the Dutch and the Scandinavians. On the other hand, we live next door to another great experiment in democracy embodying other concepts of authority. We believe that if Canadians had to make a choice, the vast majority of thinking people would prefer our present form of government, of which the kingship is an integral part. To whatever sentimental attachment we may have individually for the royal household is added our conviction that a sovereign at the apex of our political institutions confers stability, and helps to moderate the tone of public life. We retain the kingship in our political evolution, not as an ornament, but because it works. That belief is implicit in the warm-hearted cheers that greeted the Princess and her consort.

We could say more in homage to our recent visitors. Their behavior was in the tradition of devotion to duty which characterizes the reign of the present King, and marked the reign of his father before him. Nothing less would have enabled them to endure the tedious ordeals to which they were subjected.

Winnipeg probably registered the low point in their tour. The Princess, visibly plane sick, alighted on a freezing tarmac in an Arctic gale that swept from a menacing sky, so different from the warm Ontario sunshine which she had just left. But she was immediately pitched into an endless performance of handshaking with petty functionaries and those socially close enough to worm their way in. This exercise was repeated at various times of the day at different spots. We judge that the royal pair will hold only two other memories of Winnipeg, attendance at the ballet, which the Duke is said to abhor, and inspection of the city's dykes, indistinguishable in the gathering gloom. Small wonder that the newspapers seethed for days with letters from people who hold that the children and the incapacitated veterans might better have been given the time monopolized by the legion of officials.

Well might Saturday Night say editorially while the tour was still on its way: "If these civic dignitaries and other people live up to their profession of concern about the Princess's welfare, they would curb their personal ambition, and spare their Royal Highnesses one of the most tiring and least profitable duties which our Canadian authorities have inflicted on them."

Our dismay over the Winnipeg visit is allayed somewhat by radio accounts of the royal progress in the cities to the west. Perhaps Moose Jaw and Calgary may be singled out as places where some attempt was made to show that the Princess belonged to all her people.

The British Election

The result of the British election was no upset to observers at this distance. The only element of surprise is that Mr. Churchill's majority was not larger. The results have been interpreted in several ways on this side of the Atlantic, according to the prejudices of the interpreter. Some enthusiasts have signalized it as the final overthrow of socialism. It seems to have escaped their notice that the Conservative party is hardly less socialistic than the government it succeeded, apart from the question of nationalization which is by no means the whole content of socialism. In the matter of housing, for instance, the Tories fought the election on a promise to build 300,000 low-cost housing units a year, a figure far higher than the Labor party dared promise.

The public opinion polls which failed so miserably at the time of the Truman election proved again to be fallible. Right up to election day the pollsters predicted a Conservative majority over Labor although the margin predicted diminished as the election drew nearer. In the event the Labor party polled 200,000 more votes than the Conservatives, swollen as the Tory vote was by a large accretion of Liberal ballots. The mathematics of distribution, however, give the minority party a majority of 18 seats in the House, plus the conditional support of six Liberal members.

We venture to say that the return of Churchill to power will, on balance, be a good thing for Britain. There is magic in his name abroad. Fiery opportunists like Mossadegh will now think twice before trying to twist the lion's tail. The eclipse of the Labor party will be well received in the United States where it is believed that all of Britain's troubles arise from a worship of false political gods.

It is doubtful if domestic policy will be much changed. There is not much that any British government can do on the home front. Britishers performed prodigies in their export drive fostered by the government over the last five years, but it has not been enough to restore the position lost in the war years. Their country is now facing world-wide inflation aggravated by and inseparable from the needs of rearmament. It is sharpened by a disproportionate rise in the cost of raw materials which strikes with crippling force an economy so dependent as Britain's on imported raw materials. The defence of western democracy requires a stronger Britain and free men everywhere hope and pray that Mr. Churchill will prove to be the shining knight his followers believe him to be, equally capable of waging war and building for peace.

We in the West must ask ourselves what the policy of the new government will be toward the purchase of Canadian foodstuffs. We would like to be sure that it will not be harder to deal with than the ministry which has just left office. Of this we cannot be too confident. We cannot overlook the promise to British agriculture contained in the Conservative election manifesto to stop "dumping" cheap imported food. This was supported by a blatantly restrictionist election pamphlet officially sponsored. Carried into effect, we can think of nothing more damaging to Commonwealth relations.

Tariff and Living Costs

The mounting cost of living continues as the No. 1 current national problem. Last month a front-bench Liberal, A. Wesley Stuart, made a blistering attack on the effect of the tariff in artificially raising Canadian prices. Mr. Stuart lives at St. Andrews on the New Brunswick border. Across the bay from his home are the American towns where he has been gathering American price information. He charges that the Canadian scene is thick with monopolies, and named a list of common household articles which cost twice as much in Canada as in the United States. In many cases, he asserts, individual firms operate on both sides of the line and charge a substantially higher price for the article sold in Canada.

Mr. Stuart wants to hale the alleged exploiters before a parliamentary committee and oblige them to justify the higher Canadian prices. His remedy—to abolish the tariff for three months, in which time he promises a tumble in the cost of living, which could be achieved in no other way.

Mr. Stuart's exploding ammunition will be as the scent of battle in the nostrils of those westerners who have never wavered from the uncompromising stand against the tariff taken by their farm organizations a generation ago. But they recognize it as a skirmish, maybe a solitary flare tossed into the night, certainly not as a deployment in force. Mr. Stuart speaks as a private soldier. No legions march at his command. The party chiefs will be much more cautious. They know the forces which will be arrayed against them if they attack on this front.

Less than a month ago the speech from the throne promised that legislation would be introduced at this session to prohibit resale price maintenance. It was represented at the time as a useful weapon to arrest the rising cost of living. Immediately the many forces which benefit by that practice besieged Ottawa. As a consequence the government seems to have lost its enthusiasm, for reports indicate that action will be deferred. The resistance to the prohibition of resale price maintenance is nothing compared to what would result from action along the lines of Mr. Stuart's suggestion.

Meanwhile the cost of living continues to rise and the public looks anxiously and with growing impatience for some fresh attack on it.

World Food Supply and Population

The British concern over the cost and supply of raw materials, which have advanced 40 per cent in price since Korea, has produced some statistics which are equally significant for food exporting nations like Canada. The Manchester Guardian quotes Prof. W. A. Lewis as saying that the annual rate of growth of primary production the world over since 1913 is only half as great as that of manufacturing production.

"The really acute problem," says Prof. Lewis, "is presented by agriculture, both on the side of food production and on the side of raw materials. World agricultural production increased annually by 1.1 per cent between 1913 and 1929; by 1.3 per cent between 1929 and 1937; and by .03 per cent between 1937 and 1950. These rates are much too low for a world whose population is expected to grow at a rate of 1.25 per cent annually over the next decade."

If supply and demand considerations are to prevail in the near future this would seem to indicate a coming period of relatively higher food prices.

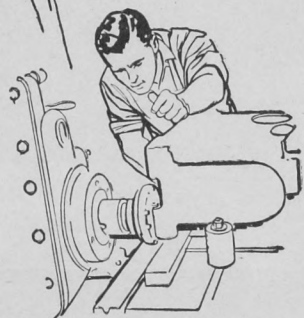
If the current rates of increase of population and food production continue, it will throw doubts on the advisability of embarking on long-term bulk contracts. In the light of present-day knowledge the price ranges set in the International Wheat Agreement were too low, although they were probably as high as the importing nations would accept at that time. If the I.W.A. is renewed, producer interest will require price revisions at shorter intervals, and in every case decisions on price will have to be left as late as the mechanics of the business permit.

Losses from Wild Ducks

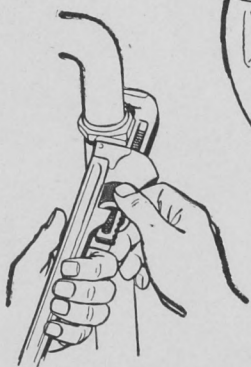
Irvin Studer, a grain farmer of Lac Pelletier, Sask., who sits in parliament for Maple Creek, is making a name for himself as an originator of ideas. Readers will remember him as the man who not long ago suggested that Saskatchewan be divided down the center, the dry half being united to oil-wealthy Alberta, and the eastern half joined to Manitoba, which it resembles.

Mr. Studer has come up with a new one. He has drawn attention to the heavy losses which some farmers sustain annually from depredations in their grain fields by wild ducks. He suggests that they could be partially compensated from an insurance fund contributed to by farmers, sportsmen, tourist agencies, railways, and others.

We do not know if the proposal, so far as it has been worked out, is practical, but there is a lot of common sense in the underlying intention. It has always seemed unfair to us that the burden of feeding the myriads of wild ducks which furnish food and pleasure to city and country hunters alike falls on the shoulders of the relatively few who live near their haunts. We commend the principle enunciated by Mr. Studer to the various provincial legislatures.



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